

Inventing Materials that Never-before Existed



Brian Benicewicz

Professor, Chemistry SmartState Chair, Polymer Nanocomposites

CURRENT RESEARCH


Novel materials aid technological advancements in a variety of fields

In the world of biomedicine, energy, optics, engineering, and dielectrics, materials are the building block for the incredible applications developed. However, when a new problem presents itself, scientists often do not have the materials equipped to solve the problem at hand. In the event that a material is not available, new materials need to be invented. Dr. Brian Benicewicz, Professor of Chemistry and SmartState Chair of Polymer Nanocomposites at the University of South Carolina, develops new materials with properties or combinations of properties that did not exist previously. In particular, he and his team make polymers that other scientists or industry is in need of, motivated by the applications that have the potential to "make life better." Therefore, his research may have benefits for the growth of new energy technologies, biomedical applications, and more!

The materials created in Dr. Benicewicz's lab are not the materials that researchers can easily "send away for in a catalogue." Rather, his work provides personalized innovation for each problem that requires a completely new material with useful properties. In order to produce such individualized materials, he has developed strong collaboration with industrial partners and long-term academic collaborators. Through such close partnerships, his work continues to be guided by the needs of scientists working in the field ensuring that the impact of his research remains at the forefront. Furthermore, he and his team are able to create some of the most unique materials with properties that have never before been realized. When not geared towards a problem, Dr. Benicewicz's research is still an important underlying foundation for the science of...

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AFFILIATION

 University of South Carolina

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., in Chemistry, 1980 , University of Connecticut

AWARDS

- Elected Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science, 2011
- Appointed USC Educational Foundation Distinguished Professor, 2008
- Awarded Mettler-Toledo Thermal Analysis Education Award, 2001
- Awarded NASA Technology Program Award, 1998
- Awarded Los Alamos National Laboratory Distinguished Patent Award, 1997

RESEARCH AREAS

Technology, Chemistry, Materials Science / Physics, Nanotechnology

FUNDING REQUEST

Your contributions will support the continued research of Dr. Brian Benicewicz, of the University of South Carolina, to develop new nanotechnologies and energy technologies. Donations will fund the necessary \$75K/year required for each graduate student. Additional funding will support infrastructure for the fuel cell and energy lab, and cross-discipline collaboration. Be a part of tomorrow's technological advances; fund Dr. Benicewicz's research to see breakthroughs in optical devices, energy, stronger materials, dielectrics, and biomedical applications.