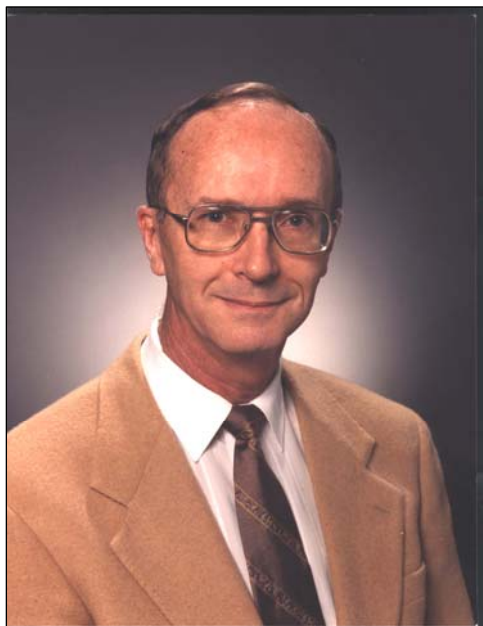


## Joseph B. Lambert (1940–



Joseph B. Lambert was born in Fort Sheridan, Illinois, on July 4, 1940 and grew up in San Antonio, Texas, where he attended Alamo Heights High School. He received his undergraduate education at Yale University (B.S. chemistry, *summa cum laude*, 1962, with William von E. Doering) and did his graduate work under John D. Roberts at the California Institute of Technology (Ph.D., 1965). In 1965, he returned to Illinois to begin his work at Northwestern University, where he has spent the rest of his career. At Northwestern he was director of the Integrated Science Program (1982–1985), chairman of the Chemistry Department (1986–1989), and Charles Deering McCormick Professor of Teaching Excellence (1999–2003). Since 1991 he has been the Clare Hamilton Hall Professor of Chemistry.

Lambert's research includes organosilicon and other main group organic chemistry, organic reaction mechanisms, nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy, and the applications of analytical chemistry to archeology. He is the author of one American Chemical Society (ACS) audio course, and over 340 publications in professional journals. He was the founder and continues as editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Physical Organic Chemistry* and has served on the editorial boards of *Organometallics*, *Archaeometry*, *Magnetic Resonance in Chemistry*, *Arts and Sciences*, *International X-Ray Emission Spectroscopy*, and *Society for Archaeological Sciences Bulletin*.

Lambert's books in chemistry include: *Organic Structural Analysis* (1976), *Introduction to Organic Spectroscopy* (1987), *Organic Structural Spectroscopy* (1998) and *Nuclear Magnetic Resonance: An Introduction to Principles, Applications, and Experimental Methods* (2004). His books on chemistry and archeology are: *Archaeological Chemistry III* (1984), *Prehistoric Human Bone: Archaeology at the Molecular Level* (1993) and *Traces of the Past: Unraveling the Secrets of Archaeology through Chemistry* (1997), which was a featured selection of the Natural Science Book Club. Lambert was chairman of the ACS Subdivision of Archaeological Chemistry of the Division of the History of Chemistry (HIST) (1977–1982), president of the Society of Archaeological Sciences (1986–1987), and chairman of HIST (1996).

Lambert many honors include: Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Fellow (1968–1970), Guggenheim Fellow (1973), National Fresenius Award of Phi Lambda Upsilon (1976), Fellow of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (1978), Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (1981), James Flack Norris Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Teaching of Chemistry from the Northeastern Section of the ACS (1987), Fryxell Award in Scientific Archaeology from the Society for American Archaeology (1989), Blue Aardvark Award for Contributions to Paleodietary Research (1991), Fellow of the Illinois State Academy of Science (1992), National Catalyst Award for excellence in teaching from the Chemical Manufacturers' Association (1993), Northwestern University Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching (1994), Sigma Xi Distinguished Lecturer (1997–1998), Frederic Stanley Kipping Award in Silicon Chemistry from the ACS (1998), Harry and Carol Mosher Award of the Santa Clara Valley Section of the ACS (2003), and the 2004 Sidney M. Edelstein Award.

Lambert received the Edelstein Award for his contributions to the history of chemistry in the area of archaeological chemistry. Archaeological chemistry deals "with chemistry before history, that is, before the written record, as derived instead from archaeological excavations." He believes archaeological chemistry is "an experimental science," where scientists "carry out the analysis of ancient materials... It is an important field because chemical analysis can provide archaeologists with information that cannot be obtained by traditional methods of archaeology."

## Sources

Autobiographical information provided by Joseph B. Lambert. His web page is at [http://www.chem.northwestern.edu/faculty/professor?professor\\_id=679](http://www.chem.northwestern.edu/faculty/professor?professor_id=679) and <http://www.ugadm.northwestern.edu/freshman/profiles/lambert.htm>.

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