

Robert M. Nerem, Ph.D.,

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Dr. Nerem joined Georgia Tech in 1987 as the Parker H. Petit Distinguished Chair for Engineering in Medicine. He is an Institute Professor Emeritus, and he was the founding Director of the Parker H. Petit Institute for Bioengineering and Bioscience, a research institute established in 1995 to bring biochemistry, bioengineering, and biology faculty together so as to create a “convergent,” interdisciplinary culture. He also was the Director of the Georgia Tech/Emory Center for the Engineering of Living Tissues, a National Science Foundation-funded Engineering Research Center, from 1998-2009. Dr. Nerem received his Ph.D. in 1964 from Ohio State University and is the author of more than 200 publications. Over the years he has served the community in a variety of ways. This includes his being President from 2000 to 2004 of the Tissue Engineering Society International, the forerunner of the Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine International Society. He also had extensive involvement with the International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering (IFMBE), serving as President from 1988 to 1991 and being the Founding President of the International Academy for Medical and Biological Engineering from 1997-2000. He also was the President of the International Union for Physical and Engineering Sciences in Medicine from 1991 to 1994. Dr. Nerem was the Founding President and is a Fellow of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE). He has served on the advisory boards of a number of companies including startups, and from 2000 to 2003 he was a member of the FDA Science Board. From 2003 to 2006 he was a part-time Senior Advisor for Bioengineering in the National Institute for Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering at the National Institutes of Health. In 1988 Dr. Nerem was elected to the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) and in 1992 to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, what is now named the National Academy of Medicine. In 1994 he was elected a Foreign Member of the Polish Academy of Sciences, in 1998 a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and in 2006 a Foreign Member of the Swedish Royal Academy of Engineering Sciences. In 2008 Dr. Nerem was selected by NAE for the Founders Award, and in 2011 he was made an IFMBE Honorary Life Member. In 2015 IFMBE selected Dr. Nerem for the inaugural John A. Hopps Award.