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Dr. Gary L. Messing is Distinguished Professor of Ceramic Science and Engineering, and former Head of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering at Penn State.

Messing received his B.S. degree in Ceramic Engineering at Alfred University and a Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering at the University of Florida.

He has published over 300 papers about processes to improve the optical, piezoelectric and structural applications of ceramics including seeding of phase transformations, sintering of layered ceramics, and templated grain growth to produce textured ceramics. Professor Messing has received numerous awards including the Richard Brook award of the European Ceramic Society, and the Jeppson and Kingery Awards of the American Ceramic Society. Messing is Fellow and Distinguished Life Member of the American Ceramic Society, Fellow of the Materials Research Society, and Academician of the World Academy of Ceramics.

He is currently President of the Advisory Board of the World Academy of Ceramics and Editor in Chief of the Journal of Materials Research.

Recipient of the Richard Brook Award of the European Ceramic Society in 2003.