

Dr. John Amend

Professor of Chemistry, Emeritus, at Montana State University and a founder and President of MicroLAB. He holds a B.A. from Pacific Lutheran University, a M.S. from Montana State University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Amend has served as a consultant for Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, the Department of Energy, the Bureau of Reclamation, and others. He worked as a civilian electrical engineer for the U.S. Army Signal Corps Alaska Communications System, as a Visiting Scientist at Oak Ridge Associated Universities, and from 1967-2005 as a member of the Chemistry faculty at Montana State University where he was Department Head in the 1990's. More than 29,000 students enrolled in Dr. Amend's chemistry courses at Montana State University. During his teaching tenure he directed NSF and NIH-supported curriculum projects and summer and academic year workshops in nuclear and instrumental chemistry and integrating computers into lab instruction. These workshops were attended by more than 800 college and high school chemistry and physics faculty and were the source of many of the ideas and software design involved in MicroLab. He received MSU's Distinguished Teaching Award, the Burlington Northern Faculty Achievement Award, and was recognized three times by students as Montana State University's Professor of the Month. Over sixty undergraduate and graduate students worked in his laboratory at MSU, one winning the University's Outstanding Doctoral Award in 1990. The LabWorks interface project came out of Amend's research group in 1990 and was subsequently sold by the University.

Amend is author of more than 60 papers and ten textbooks, including one which was translated and reprinted in Italy. He is senior author of a U.S. patent concerning analog computer design (rights held by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission), and three patents in chemical instrumentation.

In 2003 Dr. Amend received the Two-Year College Chemistry Association's (2YC3) Award for Outstanding Service to Chemical Education, was honored with membership in The Order of the Engineer in recognition of his contributions to Engineering Education and received the Montana Science Teachers' Association Award for service to Science Education. In 1990 he received Pacific Lutheran University's Centennial Alumni Award as one of 100 alumni honored on the University's 100th anniversary. At its 2013 Homecoming, Montana State University presented him its "Distinguished Faculty" award.