

## Dr. Norbert Pienta

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Norb Pienta conducted research and scholarship in physical organic chemistry and then chemistry education over his 40-year academic career. He served on the chemistry faculty at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (1980-9), University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (1989-99), University of Iowa (1999-2012) and University of Georgia (2012-2018). His chemical education activities included developing lab curricula for undergraduates at all levels, implementation and use of technology to promote student learning and to help assess it, the development and implementation of course materials and textbooks, and research on student problem solving, interpretation of molecular representations and spectra, lab safety, and computer-based instruction and assessment.

Dr. Pienta has the unique advantage of a multifaceted career, starting in research and leading into chemical education. As an active researcher in chemical education, Dr. Pienta is aware of the many challenges' professors face in educating students of knowledge-diverse backgrounds in the beauty of chemistry. He has 48 published articles and editorials, given talks at over 35 meetings, and authored and edited several books including *Instructors' Resource Manual for General Chemistry*, *Chemist' Guide to Effective Learning*, *Organic Chemistry Toolbox*, and *Chemistry in Context: Applying Chemistry to Society*. His most recent works investigate the cognitive engagement of students with respect to problem difficulty. Dr. Pienta is a founder and currently Chairman of the Microlab Board.