

Alan Myers, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

NOVEMBER 22, 2022 | VOL 69 ISSUE 15 ([HTTPS://ALMANAC.UPENN.EDU/VOLUME-69-NUMBER-15](https://almanac.upenn.edu/volume-69-number-15)) |

DEATHS | PRINT



Alan Myers

Alan Louis Myers, a professor emeritus of chemical and biomolecular engineering in the School of Engineering and Applied Science, died recently.

Dr. Myers earned a BS in chemical engineering from the University of Cincinnati in 1960 (which awarded him a Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1977), then a PhD from the University of California at Berkeley. After graduating in 1964, he was hired as an associate professor of chemical engineering at Penn. He remained at Penn for the next several decades. In 1969, Dr. Myers received a National Academy of Science appointment as a senior fellow at the Institute of Physical Chemistry of the Soviet Academy of Sciences in Moscow as part of the Inter-Academy Exchange Program of the U.S. and U.S.S.R. Academies of Sciences; under the auspices of this program, he spent five months in Russia. In 1972, he was promoted to a full professor at Penn.

At Penn, Dr. Myers was an active faculty member, serving on the University Council and on several Faculty Senate committees, as well as ad-hoc University committees and working groups. In 1977, he was named chair of the department of chemical and biochemical engineering. He also served as a visiting professor at the Technical University of Graz, Austria, from 1975 to 1976. In 1983, he received Penn's S. Reid Warren Award for Distinguished Teaching; 14 years later, he received the Institute Award for Excellence in Industrial Gases Technology from the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. In his retirement from Penn, Dr. Myers served on the first executive committee of the Penn Association of Senior and Emeritus Faculty (PASEF) in 2006.

Dr. Myers was active in his field. He conducted prestigious research on the thermodynamics of surfaces, the interactions of unlike molecules absorbed in a solid surface, gas storage by adsorption in micropores, and adsorptive separation of mixtures. He co-wrote three books: *Introduction to Chemical Engineering and Computer Calculations* (1976, with W. Seider), *Fundamentals of Adsorption* (1984, with G. Belfort), and *Adsorption Equilibrium Data Handbook* (1989, with D. P. Valenzuela). In 1983, he co-founded the International Adsorption Society, a non-profit professional association dedicated to serving people, firms, and organizations who seek to advance the art, science, and technology of adsorption and related subjects (*Almanac* July 13, 2010 (<https://almanac.upenn.edu/archive/volumes/v57/n01/hot.html>)).