

Dr **Francis CAMBIER** is Honorary Director General of the Belgian Ceramic Research Centre (BCRC) in Mons, Belgium. He received his M.Sc. in Chemistry and D.Sc. from the University of Mons (BE), in 1971 and 1978, respectively. He joined BCRC in 1979, working one year in a group specialized in traditional ceramics and then contributing, as Group Leader, to the launch of research in advanced ceramics for the Centre. He became Research Manager in 1984 and specialized himself in processing and assessment of thermo-mechanical properties of structural ceramics and refractory materials. From 1986 to 1989, he worked half time as a consultant for a company producing advanced ceramics components. He was appointed as Director General of the BCRC (about 100 employees) in 1996 and stayed until end of June 2017.

He has been lecturing advanced ceramics, glass structure and powder synthesis at the University of Valenciennes, France during the period 1991-2000 and lecturing advanced ceramics and applications at the School of Engineers of the University of Mons from 2001 to 2014.

Dr Cambier is author or coauthor of about 300 papers, of more than 250 communications and of 8 patents. Member of the board of the Belgian Ceramic Society since 1985, he was President from 2001 to 2006 and Treasurer again from 2006 to 2019. He was organizer of several international conferences and particularly of the European Ceramic Society Conference and Exhibition in Bruges in 2001.

He has also been strongly involved in the ECerS organization as the permanent representative of Belgium since ECerS set up in 1987, as Secretary General of the Society from 2007 to 2019. He is now President-Elect of the ECerS. He was also Secretary of the JECS Trust (foundation of ECerS) from November 2007 to July 2019. He is ECerS Fellow since 2013. Dr Cambier has also been a member of the American Ceramic Society since 1983, and became ACerS Fellow in October 2016.

He was elevated to the grade of Officer of the Order of Leopold II in 2005 and became Honorary Dean of Work (for the Belgian ceramic and tiles industries) in 2008. He received the honorary Medal of National Fund for Scientific Research (FNRS Belgium) in 2010 and presented the "Stuijts Award" of ECerS in 2011 during the Stockholm conference. He has been a member of the French Ceramic Society since 2003. He was elected (8th election) to the World Academy of Ceramics (WAC) in 1999. He is actually Vice-President of the Advisory Board of WAC. Dr Cambier received the Polish Ceramic Society Award and the International DKG Award in 2017.