PATER PRESENTED NASA EXCEPTIONAL SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

Ruth H. Pater was awarded a NASA Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal March 27 at the Honor Awards Ceremony at NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, Va.

She received the award "for outstanding contributions to the development of materials and processing of high-temperature polymer matrix composites."

Pater began her NASA career in 1980 as a senior research scientist in the Materials Division at the Lewis Research Center, transferring to Langley in 1986. She is presently a senior research scientist in the Polymeric Materials Branch, Materials Division, developing lightweight and high strength polymer matrix composite materials for aerospace applications, particularly in aircraft engine components. Her specialized fields of work are high-temperature polymers, advanced polymer composites, and high-temperature adhesives.

Prior to her NASA career she served as a research scientist at the United Technologies Research Center, a postdoctoral fellow at Brown University, and before that as a lecturer in chemistry at the University of Massachusetts, North Dartmouth.

She is a member of the American Chemical Society, Society for the Advancement of Material and Process Engineering, and Society of Plastics Engineers.

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She is the author or co-author of more than 100 technical papers, and 14 patents have been issued her, or are pending.

A native of Taiwan, China, she received a bachelor of science degree in chemistry from Tanchang College, Taiwan, in 1962. She received a master of science degree in organic chemistry from the University of Massachusetts in 1972, and received a doctorate in organic chemistry from Brown University in 1977.

She has three daughters, and lives in Yorktown.

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