



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**The American Ceramic Society and Florida Tech announce partnership**  
*ACerS and FIT join forces to offer series of short courses in bioceramics*

WESTERVILLE, OHIO—The American Ceramic Society (ACerS) today announced that it has signed a partnership agreement with the Florida Institute of Technology's (FIT) Continuing Education department to offer a series of short courses in bioceramics taught by Dr. Larry Hench.

The "Bioceramics: Advances and Challenges for Affordable Healthcare" short course—tailored to professionals in the engineering and healthcare fields—will discuss the ethical and technical challenges facing affordable healthcare in the 21st century with an emphasis on the evolution and clinical applications of bioactive ceramic materials. It will be available for purchase on the ACerS website on June 15 and on FIT's Continuing Education website. Other short courses and a certificate program will be offered through Continuing Education at Florida Tech.

"The partnership between Florida Institute of Technology and The American Ceramic Society is one that seeks to advance our shared goals of continuing education and a lifelong passion for learning," says Mark Mecklenborg, ACerS Director of Publications and Meetings. "To be able to share Larry Hench's passion for and knowledge of bioceramics with the world—and to do it with Florida Tech—is a significant opportunity for ACerS."

Hench, a professor in Florida Tech's Biomedical Engineering Program, created the short course and helped bring about the partnership between ACerS and Florida Tech. An ACerS Fellow, Distinguished Life Member, and recipient of the Society's W.D. Kingery Award, he is well known for the development of Bioglass—the world's first synthetic material capable of long-term bonding with living tissue—which has become an essential component of countless orthopedic devices and medical procedures.

For more information, please visit [www.ceramics.org/bioceramicsdvd](http://www.ceramics.org/bioceramicsdvd) or [www.fit.edu/biomedical-professional](http://www.fit.edu/biomedical-professional).

**About ACerS**

Founded in 1898, The American Ceramic Society is the leading international professional membership organization for ceramic, glass, and materials scientists, engineers, researchers, manufacturers, sales professionals, educators, and students. ACerS publishes refereed journals, periodicals, and books; organizes meetings and expositions; and offers technical information through web and print outlets. ACerS's extensive website ([www.ceramics.org](http://www.ceramics.org)) provides online access to its journals, *Ceramic Tech Today* news blog, *ACerS Bulletin* membership magazine, videos, student and young professional career resources, and specialized technical knowledge. The Society serves 9,000 members from more than 70 countries.

**About Florida Institute of Technology Continuing Education**

Florida Tech's Continuing Education provides job skills training, career enhancement and professional enrichment training to the local, state, national and international community in the areas of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, business and the humanities. Additional information is available online at [www.fit.edu](http://www.fit.edu).

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