

Dr. Robert E. Hughes was born in New York City in 1924, he attended Lehigh University where he received his BS degree in 1949 and Cornell University where he received his PhD under the direction of Professor James Lynn Hoard in 1952. After receiving his PhD, Dr. Hughes accepted a position as assistant professor at the University of Pennsylvania where he remained until he returned to Cornell University in 1964 as a full professor. He was director of the Materials Science Center at Cornell from 1968 until 1974, a senior science policy analyst in the Office of the Science Adviser to the President in 1974 and served as assistant director of the National Science Foundation from 1974 until 1976. In 1980, Dr. Hughes accepted the position of President at Associated Universities, Inc. (a non-profit association which manages national research laboratories for Government Agencies). In 1988 Dr. Hughes was made Professor Emeritus of Chemistry at Cornell University.

Dr. Hughes has also headed United States Delegations to the Eighth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting and a Special Preparatory Meeting on the Antarctic Treaty. He was also a member of several U.S.-U.S.S.R. Joint Committees or Commissions, and has served as a delegate to the Board of the Bi-national U.S.-Israel Science Foundation and to the U.S.-India Joint Committee for Science and Technology.

Dr. Hughes is a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Astronomical Society, the American Chemical Society, and the American Crystallography Society, the American Physical Society, Sigma Xi and Phi Beta Kappa. He is married to Lou J. Hughes, who is a professor of biochemistry at The American University.