



Professor Benjamin Widom was born in 1927 in Newark, New Jersey. After receiving his AB degree at Columbia University in 1949, he received his PhD at Cornell University under the direction of Professor Simon Bauer. Professor Widom has also received honorary degrees from the University of Chicago and the University of Utrecht.

After receiving his PhD in 1949, Professor Widom was a research associate in the Department of Chemistry at the University of North Carolina from 1952-54 with O.K. Rice. In 1954, he accepted an instructor position at Cornell and was made assistant professor in 1955, associate professor in 1959, full professor in 1963 and Goldwin Smith Professor in 1983. Professor Widom also served the department as chair from 1978-81.

Professor Widom has received numerous honors and awards including the New York Academy of Sciences Boris Pregel Award in Chemical Physics, the ACS Langmuir Award in Chemical Physics, the ACS Hildebrand Award in Theoretical and Experimental Chemistry of Liquids, the Carnegie-Mellon University Dickson Prize for Science, the University of Wisconsin Hirschfelder Prize, the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences Bakhuis Roozeboom Medal, the University of Trondheim Onsager Medal, the Boltzmann Medal of the IUPAP Commission on Statistical Physics, and the ACS Award in Theoretical Chemistry. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Philosophical Society, a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and

Sciences, a fellow of the American Physical Society, and a fellow of the New York Academy of Sciences.

Professor Widom has served on the editorial boards of several journals, has delivered many invited lectures, and has been a visiting professor at nine universities.

His wife Joanne is a research biochemist at Cornell. They have three children, all academics in the sciences, and three grandchildren.