Dale Sayers joined the North Carolina State University physics department faculty in 1976, where he initiated a broad research program and collaborated with colleagues to study numerous far-reaching topics. Throughout his professional life, Professor Sayers’ intellect and curiosity benefited a host of scientific colleagues. His personal integrity, humor, and comfortable communicative style permeated his life from teaching college freshmen to heading world-renowned research teams until his untimely passing in 2004. This second Sayers Lecture marks the continuation of an annual series that honors both his memory and his many contributions to North Carolina State University and the scientific community.

Amorphous Materials and the Development of SSRL

Arthur Bienenstock

Dale Sayers and his research provided major impetus for the development of dedicated synchrotron radiation sources worldwide. Much of Professor Sayers’ work involved the study of amorphous materials. One of the most productive synchrotron radiation sources is the Stanford Synchrotron Radiation laboratory, or the SSRL. Arthur Bienenstock, former director of the SSRL, senior science adviser to President Clinton from 1997 to 2001, and President-elect of the American Physical Society, will discuss the development of the SSRL focusing principally on the study of amorphous materials, much of it the work of Dale Sayers.