

Professor Klod Kokini is a Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Purdue University and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the College of Engineering. He received his B.S.M.E. from Bogazici University in Istanbul, Turkey (1976); his M.S.M.E. (1978) and Ph.D. degrees (1982) from Syracuse University in Syracuse, New York. He became a Professor of Mechanical Engineering in 1994. He was given a courtesy appointment in Materials Engineering in 1996 and a courtesy appointment in Biomedical Engineering in 2000. He served as Assistant Dean of Engineering from 2001 until 2004. As Assistant Dean for Strategic Initiatives, he developed and oversaw programs across the College of Engineering that aimed at improving the climate and diversity for faculty and students. As Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, since 2004, his responsibilities include faculty and staff affairs, including recruitment, hiring and retention, promotion and tenure, awards, climate and diversity, and dual career issues.

Professor Kokini's research activities include the study of failure mechanisms and design of high-temperature advanced materials such as monolithic, precracked and functionally graded ceramic thermal barrier coatings. He also works on interdisciplinary research related to the biomicromechanics of ECM-cell interactions under the application of mechanical loads.

He served on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Thermal Stresses (1995-1998). He was the Vice-Chair, then the Chair of the Ceramics Committee of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) (1993-1997) and was elected an ASME Fellow in 2002. He served on the Board of Diversity and Outreach of ASME, (2002-2005). He served on the Nominating Committee of ASME, and currently is a board member of the ASME Center for Leadership and Diversity. He was elected as an American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering Fellow in 2008. He is also a member of the International Advisory Committee of the Functionally Graded Materials Forum in Sendai, Japan (1989- ). He was the recipient of the *Dreamer Award*, Purdue University's highest award which recognizes contributions to diversity activities and named in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. (2005). He was the first male recipient of the *Violet Haas Award* given by the Council on the Status of Women at Purdue in recognition of outstanding efforts on behalf of women (2007). In 2008, he was the recipient of the ASME Johnson and Johnson Consumer Companies Medal, for his "unwavering commitment to diversity".