

# Thomas A. Weber Biography

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Thomas Andrew Weber (June 8, 1944—) was born in Tiffin, OH, USA, the son of Stanley W. Weber, a machinist, and Anna Louise (née Decker), a payroll clerk. He spent his youth in Tiffin, studying at St. Mary's Grammar School and Calvert High.

Weber started attending the University of Notre Dame in 1962 and graduated with a BSc in Chemistry in 1966. He then joined Johns Hopkins, where in 1970 he obtained a PhD in Chemical Physics for a thesis titled “Three studies in Hartree-Fock theory”, completed under the supervision of Robert G. Parr. He immediately joined the Bell Telephone Laboratories (after 1984, AT&T Bell Laboratories, or, generically, *Bell Labs*), in Murray Hill, NJ, as a research scientist. In 1987, he joined the National Science Foundation as Program Director in Chemistry. He later served as Division Director for Advanced Scientific Computing (1988-1992), Director of Information Systems (1992-1994), Deputy Director for the Mathematical and Physical Sciences Directorate (1994-1995), Division Director of Materials Research (1995-2006), and Director of the Office of International Activities (2006-2008), before retiring in 2008.

Weber initially trained as a computational quantum chemist, and after joining Bell Labs quickly became broadly interested in scientific computing, working on a variety of problems in computational materials science and beyond. As a close collaborator of Frank Stillinger for over a decade, they notably perfected the Stillinger-Weber potential and assembled an early representation of the energy landscape of amorphous solids.

Dr. Weber is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and a Fellow of the American Physical Society (1982). He was awarded the Meritorious Executive Presidential Rank Award in 1994 and 2006.