

Charles (Chuck) Gardner (BS 1979, PhD 1984, Coetzee) started at the University of Pittsburgh in 1975 and at the end of his sophomore year, decided to pursue a major in Chemistry. He graduated with honors with a BS in chemistry in 1979.

After considering getting a job with his BS degree, Chuck stayed on at Pitt to obtain his Ph.D. in analytical chemistry, joining the research group of Professor Johannes Coetzee. His research was on the response of lead ion-selective electrodes in non-aqueous solvents. Besides learning a lot about chemistry from Johan, a true old world gentleman, Chuck met his wife Penny and was introduced to the value of technical societies and conferences. All three of these would go on to have a significant impact on his life.

After receiving his doctorate in 1984, Chuck's professional career started at Mine Safety Appliances leading to subsequent positions at Bacharach, Extrel, and his current position at ChemImage Corporation. At ChemImage, Chuck provides product and project management leadership for hyperspectral instrument systems for the detection of drugs and weapons of mass destruction. Chuck has also been a co-inventor on over 25 issued and pending patents and has co-authored over 30 publications and conference presentations.

While Chuck was progressing through his career, he also found time to give back to the technical community through participation in the Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh (Chairman in 1994-5), the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh and eventually, being selected the President of the 2019 Pittsburgh Conference on Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy (Pittcon).

Chuck lives in the North Hills of Pittsburgh with his wife Penny, an environmental data quality auditor and son Bryan.