

# Stephen E. Schwartz

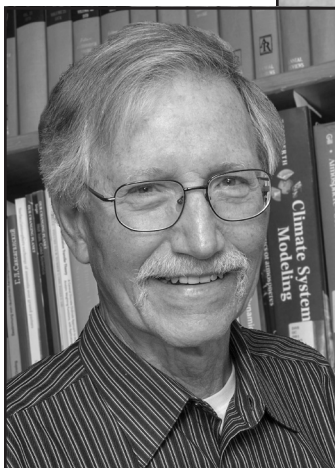
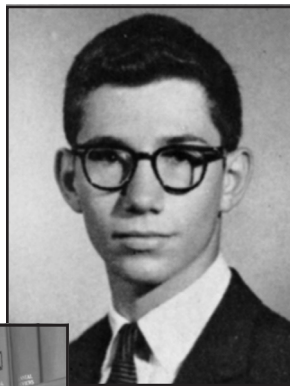
*Class of 1959*

Stephen E. Schwartz, whose love for chemistry was sparked at University City High School, is an environmental scientist credited with authoring a paper that provided a foundation for federal legislation to fight acid rain.

In 1975, Schwartz joined the Brookhaven National Laboratory on Long Island, New York. His research has ranged from cloud chemistry (how sulfur dioxide emitted by power plants gets oxidized and incorporated into rain) to climate change (determining the cooling influence of sulfate in the atmosphere).

His most recent work shows that the lifetime of anthropogenic carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is much shorter than previously thought, only about 50 years, and is governed by uptake by vegetation and by transport into the deep ocean.

This lends hope, Schwartz says, that if we reduce our collective carbon emissions, Mother Nature will help us defeat global warming.



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