

**Nigel M Sammes** received his BSc (Hons) in metallurgy from Manchester University and PhD in materials science from Imperial College. Prior to joining the University of Waikato in 1991 to help establish a discipline in materials science, he had spent five years at ICI Chemicals and Polymers Division (later Ltd) and worked on a number of projects related to materials engineering and technology. A professor with the Department of Technology at the University of Waikato, his research activities predominantly revolve around advanced ceramic materials, particularly fast ion conductors, and leading an active research group on solid oxide fuel cell systems. Besides holding three international patents, he has published more than 100 papers and book chapters. He and his wife, Mary Anne, live in Hamilton in New Zealand. He has two children, Peter James and Lisa Fiona.