

Vita

Dwight Eldridge Smith was born on the 10th day of March 1974, in Kingstree, South Carolina. He spent his formative years in his birthplace before moving to Hartsville, South Carolina where he attended and graduated from the SC Governor's School for Science and Mathematics high school in 1992. He was accepted into Clemson University and graduated with a BS in Mechanical Engineering in 1997. He then enrolled in the master's program at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, where he worked as a research assistant in the Mechanical Engineering department. After finishing his Master's degree in 1999, he spent seven months teaching thermodynamics at the Universidad Politécnica de Puerto Rico through a doctoral exchange program. He then began his doctoral research under the guidance of Dr. J. R. Mahan in the Thermal Radiation Group and obtained his PhD in May 2004.

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