



*Senado Académico
Secretaría*

Certificación Núm. 44

Año Académico 2003-2004

Yo, CARMEN I. RAFFUCCI, Secretaria del Senado Académico del Recinto de Río Piedras, Universidad de Puerto Rico, CERTIFICO QUE:

El Senado Académico, en la reunión ordinaria correspondiente al 16 de diciembre de 2003, tuvo ante su consideración el **Punto Núm. 3: Informe del Comité de Distinciones Académicas y Honoríficas** y acordó recomendar a la Junta de Síndicos la otorgación de la distinción académica de **Profesor Emérito** al **Doctor Zvi Weisz** de la Facultad de Ciencias Naturales.

Y PARA QUE ASÍ CONSTE, expido la presente Certificación bajo el sello de la Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Río Piedras, a los dieciséis días del mes de diciembre del año dos mil tres.

Carmen I. Raffucci
Carmen I. Raffucci
Secretaria del Senado

rema

Certifico Correcto:

Gladys Escalona de Motta
Gladys Escalona de Motta, Ph.D.
Rectora



SEMBLANZA Dr. ZVI S WEISZ

Dr. Weisz received from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem a PhD in physics of semiconductors and held a postdoctoral position at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. He served as Senior Scientist at the Puerto Rico Nuclear Center from 1964-1967.

In 1967 he joined the Department of Physics and the recently created MS Program in Physics as Associate Professor. Immediately after his arrival in our University, Dr. Weisz promoted several important graduate program and experimental research initiatives. He immediately began to build the first semiconductors research laboratory in Puerto Rico, and it soon became the most advanced physics research lab on the island. From that time until his retirement, the UPR-RP Physics Department awarded the largest number of physics MS degrees on the island. In fact, his mentoring of graduate students resulted in two students completing their master's degrees in physics in 1968. The first graduate, Dr. Paul Richardson, was named director of the Research Division of the former US Bureau of Mines.

Dr. Weisz's externally funded grants allowed our Institution to obtain state-of-the-art facilities for materials growth and characterization, including the first electron microscopes (SEM and TEM), atomic force and tunneling microscopes (AFM and STM), Auger Spectrometer, Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometer (SIMS), X-Rays Fluorescence Spectrometer, X-Rays Photoelectron Spectrometer (XPS), as well as vacuum and sputtering systems. These facilities made it possible for the Physics Department to benefit from sustained development in the area of materials science and surface science.

In 1978 Dr. Weisz was appointed Chair of the Department of Physics and served in that position for ten years. He recruited or supported the hiring of 5 of the 6 researchers in condensed matter. This group has a high number of publications, receives external funding, and prepares a significant number of graduate students.

Dr. Weisz was the director of the materials science thrust area of the EPSCoR initiative for several years and served as director of the project for the creation of a materials research center funded by NSF in the amount of \$1,945,000. He played a significant role in the creation of the Doctoral Program in Chemical Physics and was the coordinator of the program during the first 14 years in which 12 students received their PhD.

Dr. Weisz was visiting professor at the Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche at Bologna, Italy; at New York University, Brookhaven National Lab and the US Naval Surface Weapons Center. His research at UPR started with seminal work in the area of charge transport in organic semiconductors. In "Current Injection in Solids," M. A. Lampert and P. Mark from Princeton University have extensively cited his contributions to this field. His interest changed to focus on composite materials and finally evolved to the study of nanostructured semiconductors. He has published over 120 articles.

Dr. Weisz retired in 1999.

Dr. Weisz's 33 years of dedication fundamentally changed the Department of Physics. He advanced experimental research and was instrumental in the Department's developing and offering a Ph.D. program.