2003 Microwave Pioneer Award

Walter R. Curtice



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The Microwave Pioneer award recognizes an individual or a team not exceeding three persons having made outstanding pioneering technical contributions that advance microwave theory and techniques and described in an archival paper published at least 20 years prior to the year of the award. This year's recipient is Walter R. Curtice whose citation reads "For development of a new, simplified model for accurate simulation of GaAs MESFETs in nonlinear circuits."

Walter R. Curtice received the BEE with Distinction, MS and Ph D degrees from Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. He joined the Raytheon Company for five years and then spent five years as an Associate Professor at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. In 1973, Dr. Curtice joined RCA Laboratories, Princeton, New Jersey, as a Member of the Technical Staff. There he developed various models for GaAs field-effect transistors, including several circuit models that are widely used in SPICE and harmonic-balance simulators. For this work, he was presented with the RCA Laboratories Outstanding Achievement Award in 1984.

In 1987, Dr. Curtice joined Microwave Semiconductor Corporation, Somerset, New Jersey, as manager of Computer-Aided Design and Modeling and, in 1989, became an independent consultant. He has an active consulting business with many companies, such as Motorola, Agilent Technologies, Lockheed-Martin and Northrop Grumman.

He has written over 80 technical papers, has 11 U. S. patents, and was made a Fellow of the IEEE in 1988. He was Distinguished Lecturer for the Microwave Theory and Techniques Society of the IEEE for 1990-1992 and visited approximately twenty chapters throughout the USA. In 1991, he received the ARFTG award (Automated RF Techniques Group) for modeling of transistors. He was Chair of the Princeton/Central Jersey Section of the IEEE for 1989-1990, and has continued to be active as Chapter Chair for the MTT/ED/AP joint Societies. He is presently Awards Chair for the Section. He is on the editorial board of the Transactions of Microwave Theory and Techniques, the Transactions of Electron Devices and the International Journal of RF and Microwave Computer-Aided Engineering. He was a member of the Technical Program Committee of the the MTT for over 10 years.