

2003 Distinguished Educator Award

Lester F. Eastman

This award was inspired by the untimely death of Prof. F. J. Rosenbaum (1937–1992), and outstanding teacher of microwave science and a dedicated Administrated Committee Member and contributor. The award recognizes a distinguished educator in the field of microwave engineering and science who best exemplifies the special human qualities of Fred Rosenbaum who considered teach a high calling and demonstrated his dedication to the Society through tireless service. This year's recipient is Lester A. Eastman whose citation reads ***"For Outstanding Achievements as an Educator, Mentor and Role Model."***

Lester F. Eastman received the BS in 1953, MS in 1955, and the PhD in 1957, all from Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. He is presently the John L. Given Foundation Chair Professor of Engineering at Cornell University. He joined the faculty of Electrical Engineering at Cornell in 1957, and also serves as member of the graduate fields of Applied Physics and Materials Science. Since 1965 he has been doing research on compound semiconductor materials, high-speed devices, and circuits, and has been active in organizing workshops and conferences on these subjects elsewhere since 1965 and at Cornell from 1967.

In 1977, he joined other Cornell faculty members in obtaining funding and in founding the National Research and Resource Facility for Submicron Structures at Cornell (now Cornell Nanofabrication Facility). Also in 1977, he founded the Joint Services Electronics Program and directed it until 1987. He has supervised 111 PhD theses, 41 MS theses, and 82 post-doctoral studies. In his research group effort is underway on molecular beam epitaxy, microwave transistors, high-speed semiconductor lasers, and fundamental phenomena in compound semiconductor quantum electron and optical devices. During the 1978 – 1979 year he was on leave at MITs Lincoln Laboratory, and during the 1985 – 1986 year he was at IBM Watson Research Laboratory. During 1983 he was the IEEE Electron Devices Society National Lecturer. He was a member of the U.S. Government Advisory Group on Electron Devices from 1978 – 1988, and has served as a consultant for several industries. From 1987 – 1993 he served as a member of the Kuratorium (Visiting Senior Advisory Board) of the Fraunhofer Applied Physics Institute in Freiburg, Germany.

He has been a Fellow of the IEEE since 1969, a member of the National Academy of Engineering since 1986, and has been a Chair Professor at Cornell since 1985. In September 1991 he was awarded the GaAs Symposium Award, and the Heinrich Welker Medal, for his "contributions to the development of ballistic electron devices, planar doping, buffer layers, and AlInAs/GaInAs/InP heterostructures". He was awarded the Alexander von Humboldt Senior Fellowship in 1994, and the Aldert van der Ziel Award in 1995. The IEEE honored him with their 1999 Graduate Teaching Award and Third Millennium Medal in 2000. He was elected Fellow of the American Physical Society in 2001 and he received the University of Michigan's William Gould Dow Lectureship award the same year. The biennial IEEE Cornell Conference on High Performance Devices was renamed the IEEE Lester Eastman Conference in 2002. The Electron Devices Society has selected him as the 2002 recipient of the IEEE Electron Devices Society J.J. Ebers Award.



**Lester F.
Eastman**