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*Acoustical Society of America
Melville, New York 11747*



Cyril M. Harris

Cyril M. Harris named recipient of the Per Bruel Gold Medal

Cyril M. Harris, Charles Batchelor Professor Emeritus of Electrical Engineering and Professor Emeritus of Architecture at Columbia University, has been named the 2006 recipient of the Per Bruel Gold Medal for Noise Control and Acoustics of the American Society for Mechanical Engineering.

The Per Bruel Gold Medal for Noise Control and Acoustics is given in recognition of eminent achievement and extraordinary merit in the field of noise control and acoustics. The achievement must include useful applications of the principles of noise control and acoustics to the art and science of mechanical engineering. The medal, established in 1987, honors Dr. Per Bruel who pioneered the development of sophisticated noise and vibration measuring and processing equipment.

Professor Harris was cited "for outstanding contributions to the acoustical design of concert halls, opera houses and theatres; and for authoring a series of seminal handbooks that provide educators and practitioners with design methods for noise and vibration control.

Cyril Harris received a B.A. and M.A. from the University of California, Los Angeles and a Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

He holds honorary doctorates from the New Jersey Institute of Technology and from Northwestern University.

Among his extensive list of publications are the books *Acoustical Designing in Architecture*, coauthored with Vern Knudsen, *Noise Control in Buildings*, *Handbook of Acoustical Measurements and Noise Control 4th Edition*, coauthored with Allan Piersol, *Dictionary of Architecture and Construction 4th Edition*, *Illustrated Dictionary of Historic Architecture*, and *American Architecture: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*.

He has participated in the design of more than 100 halls including the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, DC; Benaroya Hall, Seattle, WA; Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis, MN; Metropolitan Opera House, Lincoln Center, New York, NY; National Academy of Sciences Auditorium, Washington, DC; Powell Symphony Hall, St. Louis, MO; National Centre for the Performing Arts, Bombay, India; and Abravanel Hall, Salt Lake City, UT.

Cyril Harris is a Fellow of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA), Honorary Fellow of the Audio Engineering Society, member of the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering. He was awarded The Franklin Medal of The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA, in 1977, the Wallace Clement Sabine Award of the ASA in 1979, the A.I.A. Medal of the American Institute of Architects in 1980, the Gold Medal of the Audio Engineering Society (1973), the Mayor's Award for Science & Technology of the City of New York, and the Pupin Medal for 1998 awarded by Columbia University. He was awarded the Gold Medal of the Acoustical Society of America in 1987 "for service to the Society; for improved understanding of absorption of sound in gases; and for contributions to the science and practice of architectural acoustics."

Cyril Harris has served the Society as President, Vice President, Member of the Executive Council and Associate Editor of the *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*.



Robert C. Coffeen

Robert Coffeen named 2006 National Systems Contractors Association Educator of the Year

Robert Coffeen has been named 2006 National Systems Contractors Association (NSCA) Educator of the Year in recognition of his continuing efforts to improve the electronic systems industry through the generous provision of his teaching talents,

Coffeen has established a broad record of support for NSCA education and the industry as a whole, especially since retiring ten years ago from the acoustical consulting firm he founded in 1964. Today, Coffeen is a member of the faculty of the School of Architecture and Urban Design at the University of Kansas, teaching five courses in architectural acoustics and electro-acoustics primarily to architecture and architectural engineering students.

"We would like to recognize Bob Coffeen for his overall achievements and contributions to the industry with the 2006 Educator of the Year award," says Chad Sowers, senior manager of education programs for NSCA. "He not only taught several classes of his

own at NSCA Expo 2006, he also volunteered to help with several others. Bob's willingness to share his expertise sets a fine example of the volunteerism that helps improve the knowledge and skills of electronic systems professionals. We wish to thank him for his continued efforts, and we look forward to working with him on more educational opportunities in the future."

In 2001, Bob Coffeen was awarded a Bradley Students' Recognition Award at the University of Kansas School of Architecture and Urban Design through a vote held among students drawn from the various degree programs in the School. He was recognized not only for effectiveness as a teacher within the studio and the classroom, but as a consummate educator who inspires students equally well outside of class.

Bob Coffeen is a Fellow of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA), a member of the Technical Committee on Architectural Acoustics, and a member of the Advisory Committee of The Robert Bradford Newman Student Award Fund. He has been an organizer for over a decade of the annual Student Design Competitions at ASA meetings that are intended to encourage students to express their knowledge of architectural acoustics and noise control in the design of a facility in which acoustical considerations are of significant importance.

In 2000, he supervised the preparation of "Classroom Acoustics, a resource for creating learning environments with desirable listening conditions," by five senior students in the Architectural Engineering program at the University of Kansas." This publication was prepared for the Technical Committee on Architectural Acoustics of the Acoustical Society of America and thousands of copies have been distributed to engineers, educators, consultants, and parents both in print and via the web.

Bob is a member of the National Council of Acoustical Consultants, a life member of the Audio Engineering Society, and a member of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers.



Philip Rubin

Philip Rubin named Chair of National Academies Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Science

Philip Rubin has been named to the National Academies Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences (BBCSS) and also will be serving as Chair of the Board. The BBCSS is an advisory board that helps the National Research Council to identify areas in which new scientific developments are creating opportunities or potential problems for public policy.

Philip Rubin is Chief Executive Officer and a senior scientist at Haskins Laboratories in New Haven, CT. He is a graduate of Brandeis University and the University of Connecticut, a Professor Adjunct in the Department of Surgery, Otolaryngology, at the Yale University School of Medicine and a Research Affiliate in the Department of Psychology at Yale University.

He is a Fellow of the Acoustical Society of America, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Psychological Association and the Association for Psychological Science.

NCAC elects new officers and directors

The membership of the National Council of Acoustical Consultants has elected the following new officers and directors for the period 2006 to 2008: David Marsh, President; Russ Berger, President-Elect; Kerrie Standlee, Vice President/Membership; Bennett Brooks, Vice President/Finance; James Phillips, Vice President/Marketing and

Communications; Stephanie Adams-Ball/Individual Member Representative; David Braslau, Bill Dohn, Kenric Van Wyk, Julie Wiebusch and Michael Yantis, Directors-at-Large.



Sean F. Wu

The Engineering Society of Detroit honors ASA member

Sean F. Wu was the recipient of an Engineering Society of Detroit (ESD) Alpha Award for Innovation in Engineering and Technology at its 2006 Annual Awards dinner on 21 June in Detroit. ESD Alpha Awards recognize and celebrate the creative and original ideas of men and women in the engineering and technology professions who develop innovative solutions to meet the needs of the public, business or academia.

Dr. Wu, Distinguished Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Wayne State University, was recognized for development of technology that creates images of a 3D sound field with very high spatial resolution and accuracy. This technology, known as the Helmholtz Equation Least Squares (HELs) based Nearfield Acoustical Holography (NAH), is being applied in manufacturing settings from automotive, aircraft and boats to industrial machinery, consumer appliances and heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems to locate sources of noise and develop solutions to eliminate the problems.

Founded in 1895, ESD is a multidisciplinary society uniting engineering, scientific and allied professions to enhance professional development and foster excitement in math and science to produce the next generation of leaders.



Scott D. Sommerfeldt



Kent Gee



Jonathan Rathsam (photo by Jingjuan Feng)

Martin Hirschorn IAC Prizes awarded by the Institute of Noise Control Engineering

The Martin Hirschorn Prize is awarded, in even-numbered years, for the best paper on new and/or improved cost effective noise control and/or acoustical conditioning products as published in the two years preceding the award.

The 2004 prize was awarded to Kent L. Gee and Scott D. Sommerfeldt for their paper, "A compact active con-

trol implementation for axial cooling fan noise." which was published in *Noise Control Engineering Journal*, Volume 51, Number 6.

Kent Gee is Assistant Professor, Department of Physics and Astronomy at Brigham Young University. He earned B.A. and M.S. degrees at Brigham Young University and a Ph.D. at Pennsylvania State University. Scott Sommerfeldt is Professor and Chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Brigham Young University. He earned a Ph.D. degree from Pennsylvania State University.

The 2005 Prize was awarded to Jonathan Rathsam of the University of Nebraska for his student project, "Validation and modeling of diffraction around three-dimensional surfaces using 3D boundary element method."

Jonathan Rathsam is a Ph.D. student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The 2004 and 2005 Prizes of \$5000 USD were awarded at the NOISE-CON 2005 meeting in October 2005.



Ralph N. Ohde

Ralph Ohde named Fellow of the American Speech Language Hearing Association

ASA member Ralph Ohde was named a Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in 2006.

The status of Fellow is retained for life and is one of the highest honors ASHA can bestow. It recognizes professional or scientific achievement and is given to a member who has shown outstanding contribution to the professions—contributions that are significant and would be so regarded within and beyond one's community or state.

Ralph Ohde is Professor in the



Rahul Kadam

Speech and Hearing Department at the Vanderbilt University Bill Wilkerson Center. He is a Fellow of ASA and served as Associate Editor of the *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* from 1990-93 and as Technical Program Chair for the ASA meeting held in Nashville in May 2003.

2006 Royster Awards

The North Carolina Regional Chapter of the Acoustical Society of America held the 2006 Royster Competition in April 2006 in Raleigh, NC. Twelve entries were submitted from contestants from Virginia Tech. The prize was awarded to Rahul Kadam, a graduate student in Mechanical Engineering, for his project title "Computational Model for Vibro-Acoustic Simulation of a Pneumatic Chipping Hammer."

The judges were: Noral Stewart, Stewart Acoustical Consultants; Reginald Cook, US Public Health Service (retired); George Bissinger, East Carolina University; Aaron Farbo, Stewart Acoustical Consultants; Tim Lavalley, LPES.

The Royster Award, which is funded through a generous donation by Larry and Julia Royster, supports the ASA Regional Chapters poster competition held once a year for a total of \$5000 in scholarships. Full-time graduate students enrolled in a program involving acoustics, or senior undergraduate students expecting to enroll in such a program, are eligible to submit entries. Posters may be on any Hearing Conservation or Noise Control topic including Education, Sound Surveys, Engineering and Administrative Controls, Hearing Protection, Audiometric Evaluations.

First Robert E. Apfel Fellowship awarded

On May 22, during the Yale Engineering Graduate Commencement Convocation, The Robert E. Apfel Fellowship Fund awarded its first gift to Ping Yan, a Ph.D. candidate who is working on her dissertation project on biomechanical modeling of the heart as a basis for recovering deformation information from ultrasound image sequences. Ms. Yan began her Ph.D. with Professor Apfel and he was involved in some of the early planning of her thesis work which brings together ideas from ultrasound physics, image processing and biomedical modeling. The Robert E. Apfel Fellowship Fund was established in appreciation for Professor Apfel's mentoring by 36 students, postdocs, and colleagues during his time at Yale University.

Robert Apfel (1942-2002) was the Robert E. Higgin Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Yale University and a member of the Yale faculty for over three decades.

He was a noted researcher in physical acoustics and biomedical devices, whose work earned him many honors, including the A.B. Wood Medal from the Institute of Acoustics (U.K.), the R. Bruce Lindsay Award from the Acoustical Society of America (ASA) as well as its Silver Medal in Physical Acoustics and the ASA's highest honor, the Gold Medal. He was a Fellow of the ASA and served the Society in many roles including President (1995-1996), Vice President (1991-1992), Member of the Executive Council (1979-1982) Chair of the Technical Committee on Physical Acoustics (1977-79), Associate Editor of the *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* (1999-2002), Editor of *Acoustics Research Letters Online* (1999-2002).

Technology for a Quieter America

The National Academy of Engineering Committee on Technology for a Quieter America met on May 1 and 2, to begin a 30-month study on the development and deployment of tech-

nologies to alleviate the negative hearing and health effects of noise in workplaces, communities, and homes. The steering committee is chaired by George Maling and includes Robert Bernhard, Robert Bruce, Beth Cooper, Patricia Davies, Carl Hanson, Robert Hellweg, Gerald Lauchle, Richard Lyon, and Ian Waitz. Consultants to the project are Leo Beranek, Stephen Crandall, Kenneth Eldred and William Lang.

Nine areas of interest have been identified: cost-benefit analysis of noise-control technologies; impacts of noise on the competitiveness of U.S. products; industry demand for and education for noise-control specialists; new technologies; engineering controls and common descriptors for hazardous noise; improved metrics for community noise; public information on the benefits of low-noise products and the adverse effects of excessive noise; coordination of activities by federal and state agencies; and providing assistance to state and local noise-control programs.

USA Meetings Calendar

2006

28 Nov-2 Dec 152nd Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America joint with the Acoustical Society of Japan, Honolulu, Hawaii [Acoustical Society of America, Suite 1NO1, 2 Huntington Quadrangle, Melville, NY 11747-4502; Tel.: 516-576-2360; Fax: 516-576-2377; Email: asa@aip.org; Web: asa.aip.org].

2007

4-8 June 153rd Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, Salt Lake City, Utah [Acoustical Society of America, Suite 1NO1, 2 Huntington Quadrangle, Melville, NY 11747-4502; Tel.: 516-576-2360; Fax: 516-576-2377; Email: asa@aip.org; Web: asa.aip.org].

22-24 Oct NoiseCon 2007, Reno, NV [Web: www.inceusa.org/nc07].

27 Nov-2 Dec 154th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, New Orleans, Louisiana (note Tuesday through Saturday) [Acoustical Society of America, Suite 1NO1, 2 Huntington

Quadrangle, Melville, NY 11747-4502; Tel.: 516-576-2360; Fax: 516-576-2377; Email: asa@aip.org; Web: asa.aip.org].

2008

29 June-4 July Joint Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA), European Acoustics Association (EAA), and the Acoustics Society of France (SFA), Paris, France [Acoustical Society of America, Suite 1NO1, 2 Huntington Quadrangle, Melville, NY 11747-4502; Tel.: 516-576-2360; Fax: 516-576-2377; E-mail: asa@aip.org; Web: asa.aip.org/meetings.html].

28 July-1 Aug 9th International Congress on Noise as a Public Health Problem (Quintennial meeting of ICBEN, the International Commission on Biological Effects of Noise). Foxwoods Resort, Mashantucket, CT [Jerry V. Tobias, ICBEN 9, Post Office Box 1609, Groton CT 06340-1609, Tel. 860-572-0680; Web: www.icben.org. Email icben2008@att.net.