Ron Goldfarb Receives 2016 Distinguished Service Award

Submitted by Burkard Hillebrands, Honors and Awards Committee Chair. In 2015 the IEEE Magnetics Society Distinguished Service Award was established to honor outstanding service to the Magnetics Society. Recipients are characterized by sustained voluntary service significantly beyond the typical. The award is presented at the INTERMAG Conference each year and consists of a certificate and a cash prize. The inaugural recipient is Ron Goldfarb of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Boulder, Colorado, USA. He receives the 2016 Distinguished Service Award for "for two decades of leadership in advancing the quality and operational excellence of Magnetics Society and IEEE publications."

Dr. Goldfarb received the bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and the MS degree in materials science from Rice University, the MS and PhD degrees in physics from Colorado State University, and the MBA degree from the University of Colorado. He has been at NIST (formerly the National Bureau of Standards) since 1979. Dr. Goldfarb's research has concentrated on magnetometry, superconductivity, phase transitions, magnetic particles, magnetochemistry, biomagnetism, and standards. In 2004 he was elected Fellow of the IEEE for contributions to magnetic metrology for the characterization of superconductors. He was leader of the NIST Magnetics Group for 15 years. Dr. Goldfarb’s service to the IEEE Magnetics Society and the IEEE at large has had broad impact. He was Conference Editor of IEEE Transactions on Magnetics from 1990 to 1995 and then Editor-in-Chief from 1995 to 2004. He wrote an author style guide and template that was subsequently adopted by IEEE for most of its journals and conference proceedings. Dr. Goldfarb was one of the first adopters of IEEE’s on-line article submission and peer-review system, which resulted in a substantial reduction in time from article submission to publication. He was an early supporter of IEEE Xplore and proposed that the Magnetics Society underwrite the scanning and posting of the Transactions article archive.

Dr. Goldfarb served as Publications Chair of the Magnetics Society from 1995 through 2015, with responsibility for the society’s entire publishing program. He made the editorial and business case for the Transactions to go from bimonthly to monthly publication beginning in 2005. He is the founding editor of IEEE Magnetics Letters, the society's innovative, rapid publication journal, established in 2010. Dr. Goldfarb is an elected member of the IEEE Publication Services and Products Board for 2015-2018.

Dr. Goldfarb helped launch IEEE Transactions on Applied Superconductivity in 1991 and has served as a Magnetics Society representative to its editorial board and to the IEEE Council on Superconductivity’s Administrative Committee for many years. In 2013 and 2014 he helped establish the IEEE Journal on Exploratory Solid-State Computational Devices and Circuits, which began publication in 2015 and which is co-sponsored by the Magnetics Society. In addition to his publication activities, Dr. Goldfarb has served on the Magnetics Society's Fellows Evaluation Committee, the Nominations Committee, and as an elected member of the Administrative Committee. He has also been an ex officio member of the Conference Executive Committee, the Planning Committee, and the Administrative Committee.

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