

TAB HALL OF HONOR RECIPIENT NOMINATION FORM



CANDIDATE NAME: W. KENNETH DAWSON

BIOGRAPHY: W. Kenneth (Ken) Dawson, born in Quebec City, earned a BScA degree in Physics at Laval University in 1951, followed by a Masters and PHD in Physics at Queens in 1955. He joined the Defense Research Board of Canada's Suffield Experimental Station in Alberta, specializing in nuclear instrumentation. When nuclear testing was banned in 1959 Ken and two colleagues founded the Nuclear Research Center at the University of Alberta in Edmonton where he became Assistant Professor, earning Full Professor in 1967 specializing in control systems. In 1970 he was invited to

direct the new Technology Division at the TRIUMF physics research lab at UBC in Vancouver. He retired from TRIUMF in 1992. Ken and his wife Louise have three children, one of whom, Remy, has recently been appointed to head Ken's old division at TRIUMF. Ken enjoys the daily Cryptic Crosswords and arranging his 4000 volume library.

CITATION:

For improving Publication Activities and Technical Activities Boards collaboration, initiating electronic publication distribution, and managing a challenging Information Technology upgrade.

DESCRIPTION OF ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) RELATIVE TO THE CREATION, DEVELOPMENT, OR ADVANCEMENT OF THE TECHNICAL OBJECTIVES OF THE IEEE:

Professor W.K. Dawson, Research Physicist and IEEE Fellow, former Controls Division Director at the TRIUMF National Laboratory in Canada, first became involved in IEEE related standards work through the development of modular instrumentation standards for large scale particle accelerators, detectors and control systems; these standards were recognized globally by IEEE, ANSI and IEC and earned Dr. Dawson an IEEE Standards Board Medallion.

Dr. Dawson joined IEEE in 1982 and was elected Member of the Nuclear and Plasma Society (NPS) Administrative Committee in 1984 and served as Secretary, President and Past President by 1990.

During this period he made substantial contributions as Editor in Chief of the NPSS Transactions and Editor of the Newsletter to which he still contributes. He also compiled the first comprehensive Directory for NPS Membership which he maintained for a decade.

In 1993-94 Dr. Dawson was elected to the IEEE Board as Region 4 Director, followed by another election to the Board in 1995-96 as Vice President for Publications. In both positions he excelled in bringing improved organization and communications to the positions which resulted in significant improvements in the Publications Activities and Technical Activities Board interface, such as by eliminating redundancy in the Periodicals review process.

In 1994 he received the Richard F. Shea Distinguished Member Award for outstanding contributions to the NPS Society.

As Information Systems Advisory Committee chair, he was instrumental to the rebuilding of IEEE's information technology system. Other notable achievements include leadership in rewriting the IEEE Bylaws; revitalization of *The Institute*, the flagship publication of IEEE; and creating the Director-Elect position for the Board and a Young Member-at-Large position in Publications. These innovations proved instrumental continuity and preparedness of new members and bringing fresh views to Publications operations.

Ken was recognized for a number of these achievements with the 2003 Emberson Award.

DATE(S) OF ACCOMPLISHMENT(S):

1975-87: Member and Software team lead of CAMAC and FASTBUS standards subcommittees, processing of IEEE standards

1984-88: Served as Secretary, Editor in Chief and NPSS President, overseeing publication growth and creating the first complete and historical Member Directory

1993-94: As Division 4 Director created innovative new positions, rewrote IEEE Bylaws

1994-95: As VP Publications revitalized PAB-TAB cooperation, reduced periodicals review redundancy.

1995-97: Remained to help Board solve Information Technology problems as Chair of Advisory Committee

RELEVANT IEEE ACTIVITIES:

Member of Nuclear Instrument Module Standards Committee resulting in three new IEEE modular instrumentation standards for physics 1975-85

Elected member Nuclear and Plasma Sciences Society (NPS) Administrative Committee 1984-87

Appointed Secretary NPS 1985-86

Elected President NPS 1987-88

Past President NPS member on AdCom 1989-90

Elected Division 4 Director 1993-94

Elected Vice President for Publications 1994-95

Candidate for Election for TAB VP 1997; Board vote was a tie; lost in runoff.