Distinguished Service Award Winner 2016



Prof. André Vander Vorst



André Vander Vorst graduated in 1958 and received his Doctoral degree in 1965 from the UC Louvain (UCL), Belgium. As a research associate, he was at M.I.T. 1964-1965 where he received a M.Sc. degree, and at Stanford University 1965-1966, both in radioastronomy. In 1966, he founded the Microwave Laboratory at UCL, which he headed for 35 years. His research interests were successively loaded waveguides and cavities, atmospheric propagation up to 300 GHz, circuits up to 100 GHz, opto-microwaves, humanitarian demining, and bio-microwaves. He has been teaching in four Belgian universities on electromagnetics, transmission lines, and microwaves. He also taught analogue and hybrid computation, antennas, and microwave and satellite communications. He supervised more than 25 doctoral theses and about 200 engineer's theses.

Prof. Vander Vorst has authored and co-authored seven books, a number of book chapters, and more than 300 papers in peer-reviewed journals and conference proceedings. His last book, RF/Microwave Interaction with Biological Tissues, with co-authors A. Rosen and Y. Kotsuka, was published in 2006.

Through his academic career at UCL Prof. Vander Vorst was acting as a Head of EE Department 1970-1972, Dean of Engineering 1972-1975, Vice-President of the Academic Council 1973-1975, and President of Open School in Economic and Social Politics 1973-1987.

Over the last 50 years Prof. Vander Vorst was actively involved in development of the international microwave community. In 1967-2001 he was chairing Student Activities Committee and Educational Activities Committee, and setting up Chapter Coordination Committee in IEEE Region 8. He was a corresponding member of the Organizing Committee of the first EuMC in 1969 in London, Chair EuMC TPC in Brussels 1971, and Chair EuMC, Liège 1984. He has been a reviewer for every EuMC since 1969. He is a founder member of the European Microwave Association (EuMA) and has been EuMA secretary-treasurer for 18 years. In the latter function he has set up and developed EuMA Headquarters. He is now appointed Secretary Emeritus.



His service to the microwave community Prof. Vander Vorst has done also under the umbrella of IEEE MTT-S, in which he has been active in 1985-2006. He is a Life Fellow of the IEEE and obtained many awards, including the Microwave Career Award 2004 from IEEE MTT-S.

He is an associate member of Belgian Royal Academy of Letters and Sciences, a member of Academia Europaea and The Electromagnetics Academy, and an Honorary Member of Belgian National Committee of URSI. He has been a member of National Health Council in both Belgium and The Netherlands.

He loves music and has conducted choirs for more than 40 years.