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Professor Ralph Greif on his 65th birthday



We are pleased to honor Professor Ralph Greif on the occasion of his 65th birthday. Throughout his career, Dr. Greif has been a valued teacher, advisor, and member of the Heat Transfer Community. Ralph Greif was born on 28 November 1935 in New York. He grew up in the Bronx and attended local schools for his primary and secondary education. For his collegiate work, Ralph Greif attended New York University where he received his Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1956. He subsequently left for a two-year stay in Los Angeles where he was a Staff Member at Hughes Research Laboratories and a Hughes Fellow while attending the University of California, Los Angeles. While at UCLA he worked on boiling heat transfer. He received his M.S. in 1958 from UCLA. In that same year he left the west coast for New England where he became a Staff Member at Raytheon Research Laboratories in New Bedford, Massachusetts. Before leaving for UCLA, Ralph had met his soon-to-be wife Judy and upon returning from California, they were married in 1958. Ralph Greif began his Ph.D. work at Harvard University in the same year. He worked with Arthur Bryson through his doctoral studies and performed gasdynamics research on the free piston shock tube. In 1962, Dr. Greif

completed his Ph.D. and remained at Harvard as a Research Fellow. He began his long-standing relationship with the University of California at Berkeley in 1963 when he became an Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering.

Over the last 37 years that Professor Greif has taught and performed research at Berkeley, he has supervised over 40 Ph.D. students and many more M.S. students in a wide range of areas. In addition to his role as a research advisor, he has always been an excellent classroom teacher. There was never a doubt from his students that he genuinely cared about their understanding the subtleties of the material that he taught. In recognition of his teaching contributions, he was awarded a Tau Beta Pi, College of Engineering, Excellence in Teaching award in 1967 and a Pi Tau Sigma Excellence in Teaching award in 1971.

As a researcher, Professor Greif has done pioneering work in radiation, natural convection heat transfer, combustion heat transfer, and heat transfer in manufacturing systems, to name a few areas. During the mid-1970s, Professor Greif and his students produced a number of significant manuscripts on the detailed band absorption properties of gases. These seminal papers

continue to be referenced today. In the 1980s Professor Greif and his students defined and led research on heat transfer in flame quenching processes. Over the past ten years, he and his group have produced an impressive body of work on heat and mass transfer in chemical vapor deposition systems. The results from his research in these different technical areas have been published in over 160 journal articles. His research accomplishments have been recognized by a number of awards, including a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1969–70 and the ASME Heat Transfer Memorial Award in 1985. While Professor Greif's name has been synonymous with Berkeley heat transfer over the years, he has in fact left on occasion to serve as a visiting scholar around the world. In 1969, he was a visiting scholar at Imperial College of Science and Technology in London. In 1977 he was a visiting professor at Technion, Israel Institute of Technology, in Haifa.

In addition to the legacy of students whose lives he has touched, Professor Greif has also served the heat transfer community admirably throughout his career. As many of you know, he has continuously contributed within the ASME Heat Transfer Division for more than 30 years. He began his service to ASME in the Technical Committee on Aerospace Heat Transfer. He served as Chairman of that committee between 1970 and 1973. He was a member of the Computer Technology Policy Committee between 1975 and 1979. He served on the Honors and Awards Committee from 1979 to 1982, and was Chairman in 1981. Professor Greif was a member of the ASME/AIChE, Max Jakob Board of Awards between 1982 and 1985 and was Vice-Chairman of that committee in 1984. From 1990 to 1995, he was a member of the Heat Transfer Division Executive Committee, serving as its Chairman between 1993 and 1994.

One of Ralph Greif's professional passions has been the communication of technical knowledge. He has

contributed his time and energy by serving on the editorial boards of a number of heat transfer journals, including serving on the Honorary Editorial Advisory Board of *IJHMT* since 1995. From 1983 to 1989 he was an Associate Technical Editor of the *Journal of Heat Transfer*.

Ralph and Judy make time in their busy schedules to visit their three children and three grandchildren. Anyone who knows him can sense the immense pride he has in all of them. He enjoys hiking, walking, investing, and reading fiction. He looks forward to his annual backpacking trip to the Sierra Nevada mountains, a passion he developed shortly after arriving at Berkeley as a "kid from the Bronx".

This tribute to Ralph Greif has been motivated not only by his exemplary contributions and service to our heat transfer community, but also by the quality of his character. Those who know Ralph Greif know that he shines as an example of decency, kindness, and humility. We, friends of Ralph Greif, enthusiastically wish Ralph a very happy birthday as we also thank him for his friendship and contribution to our shared organizations over the years.

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