

**RETIREMENT OF ROBERT D. McKEOWN  
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS/THOMAS JEFFERSON NATIONAL ACCELERATOR FACILITY**

Robert D. McKeown received his B.S. in 1974 from the State University of New York, SUNY-Stony Brook with a major in Physics. He earned his M.S. and Ph.D. in 1979 from Princeton University. Professor McKeown joined the faculty of William & Mary in 2010 as the Governor's Distinguished CEBAF Professor of Physics.

After 39 years as a Professor at the California Institute of Technology, Professor McKeown was chosen to be the Deputy Director for Science at the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility in Newport News, VA, and he chose William & Mary as his new academic home. During this time, he supervised a postdoc and graduate student and actively participated in Physics Department faculty meetings and colloquia.

Professor McKeown is a well-known leader in the field of nuclear physics. For 13 years, he has led the Jefferson Lab Program Advisory Committee; an international team of prestigious scientists chosen to evaluate the proposed experimental physics program each year. He provided leadership for the overall execution of the research program at Jefferson Lab. Along with the Laboratory Director, Professor McKeown was responsible for overseeing the scientific mission, operation, and budget of Jefferson Lab under the umbrella of the U.S. Department of Energy.

The next-generation facility for the field is the Electron Ion Collider. Under the leadership of Professor McKeown, Jefferson Lab is playing a lead role in the scientific program and development of the new facility.

As a scholar, Professor McKeown has published 187 papers in refereed journals. He is on the advisory board for four national accelerator facilities. He chaired the American Physical Society (APS) Division of Nuclear Physics and was a member of the Nuclear Science Advisory Committee eight times in a variety of capacities; the entity that guides the federal government on long-term priorities for the field. He was an NSF Presidential Young Investigator. In 2009 he was awarded the Tom W. Bonner Prize in Nuclear Physics, the top award in his field, in recognition of his deep commitment to nuclear physics, his success as a researcher, and as part of the leadership team of the Jefferson Laboratory. He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society, an award given to only 0.5% in his field.

Professor McKeown is well-known for his support and mentoring of junior scientists. There are few others that have had such an impact on the field in this regard. Some of the most notable scientists in our physics were once graduate students or postdocs with Professor McKeown. These are the scientists that are now leading this field. This exceptional legacy was recognized by the 2018 APS Division of Nuclear Physics Mentoring Award.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That the William & Mary Board of Visitors acknowledges the retirement of Robert D. McKeown, expresses its profound appreciation for his many contributions to William & Mary; and approves, with deep gratitude for his fourteen years of service, a change in status from the Governor's Distinguished CEBAF Professor of Physics to Professor of Physics, Emeritus.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the Board and a copy of the same be delivered to Professor Robert D. McKeown with best wishes from a grateful Board for his years of dedicated service to William & Mary.