

JESSIE BEAMS AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING RESEARCH

The Jessie Beams Award for Outstanding Research is awarded annually by the Southeastern Section of the American Physical Society.

Jessie Beams was a remarkably broad and productive physicist who made early measurements on the instantaneity of the photoelectric effect for his Ph.D. at the University of Virginia, constructed the first electron linear accelerator, developed the magnetic ultracentrifuge, applied the ultracentrifuge to the separation of Uranium isotopes and the separation of viruses and other biologically active forms from their supporting media, adapted the ultracentrifuge to the measurements of fluid density and viscosity, and devised an ingenious modification of the Cavendish technique for determining the gravitational constant G . He was the 1958 president of the American Physical Society. In 1967, he received the National Medal of Science "For sustained and ingenious contributions to the scientific development of high-speed centrifuges, a family of devices that are now widely applied in the physical and biological sciences, in medicine, and in engineering scale isotope-separation." Except for a brief period at Yale in the 1920's, Beams spent his entire career at the University of Virginia. Although he formally retired in 1969, he was active in research until his death in 1977.

The Southeastern Section of the American Physical Society, through its Jessie Beams Award for Outstanding Research, seeks to recognize individuals who have made substantive contributions to physics research while employed at an institution in the Southeast. Factors that will be considered by the Selection Committee include whether this research led to the discovery of new phenomena or states of matter, provided fundamental insights in physics, or involved the development of experimental or theoretical techniques that enabled others to make key advances in physics. It is expected that the contributions of the award recipient should have received the critical claim of peers nationally and internationally.

Nominations

The nomination letter should address the above-stated criteria, include a short citation, approximately 15 words, that states the basis for the award, and provide both a complete curriculum vitae of the nominee and no more than three letters of support for each nominee. Additional supporting information can be included. The materials for the award should be sent to:

Dr. Kenneth Hardy
SESAPS Secretary
Department of Physics
Florida International University
Miami, FL 33199
HARDYK@FIU.EDU

Nominations will remain active for two years.