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Foreword by Edward Michael Campbell

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Vice-President, General Atomics, San Diego, CA

The Edward Teller medal has evolved into one of the most prestigious awards that recognizes the outstanding contributions to the field of inertial confinement fusion and high energy density science. It is appropriate that this international award be named after Teller, who with extraordinary vision and scientific insight, anticipated and then played a major role in the creation of this field.

This book - following an introduction by Professors Hora and Miley - presents the Teller winners and a sampling of their acceptance remarks. The introduction briefly summarizes the enormous and prophetic contributions of Teller and describes the history and diverse approaches to achieving ignition and gain in Inertial Confinement Fusion (ICF). It is very clear that scientific and technical innovation over the past 40 years gives confidence in the ultimate success of the ICF concept and with construction of megajoule class facilities in the United States and France, the laboratory demonstration of fusion ignition and net gain will take place within a decade. This result, analogous to Fermi's controlled fission demonstration under the squash courts in Chicago, will catalyze fusion energy development worldwide.

The Teller Award winners and their lectures provide ample evidence of the quality of researchers, and of the programs and richness of the field. They give a historical perspective and this summarizes outstanding contributions to laser-plasma coupling physics, energy transport, hydrodynamics and implosions, laser technology, numerical simulation and target design, and x-ray lasers to name only a subset.

The Teller Award Ceremony has recently become a much anticipated event at the Inertial Fusion Science and Applications Conferences. This international conference has now become the leading meeting where researchers of all the various branches and applications of Inertial Fusion come together to share results. Edward Teller would be both surprised and honored with the outstanding work and the international flavor of this meeting. He would be justifiably proud of the field of which he has fathered and of the recipients of the award named for him.

Mike Campbell