Daniel R. Grischkowsky

April 17, 1940 – June 26-2022

Daniel Richard Grischkowsky, 82, was born on April 17, 1940, in St. Helens, OR, and passed away on June 26, 2022. He grew up in Coos Bay, OR, and received a bachelor's degree in physics from Oregon State University in 1962. He received the PhD in Physics from Columbia University in 1968. After receiving his doctorate, Daniel accepted a physics research position within the Physical Science Department at the IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center in Yorktown Heights, NY. In 1993, he was recruited and accepted a chaired faculty position at Oklahoma State University. During his career, he received several awards for his achievements and discoveries. He was the pioneer researcher in his field of Terahertz. The Wall Street Journal recognized him for his method of generating light pulses as a few femtoseconds using a laser and light compressor developed at IBM. The ultra-short light pulses served as a "strobelight" that slowed or froze the apparent motion of molecules, atoms, and electrons so their extreme rapid interactions could be studied in detail. This was important for the ultrafast computer components found today. Some of his significant awards are the Boris Pregal Award for Applied Science and Technology (1985), the R.W. Wood Prize from The Optical Society of America (1989), and the William F. Megers Award from OSA (2003). He made many presentations to international symposiums and lectured at universities globally. He also served on several prestigious boards. He married Nancy Grischkowsky in 1960. In 1984, he married Frieda Grischkowsky; and to this union, the following children were born: Timothy Daniel Grischkowsky, Daniela Genevieve Grischkowsky, both of Stillwater, and Stephanie Alyssa Grischkowsky, St. George, Utah. In addition, his father, Oscar Grischkowsky, Corvallis, Oregon, and Thomas Dean Grischkowsky, New York, NY, survive him.