Mark Kushner is one of the absolute world leaders in the field of plasma physics, to be more precise: the area of numerical plasma modeling. He has been active since 1978, when he published his first paper on a Copper Chloride laser. From that time on, he has been publishing at an almost constant rate, for almost 40 years. At this moment, he has been cited more than 10,000 times, and his Hirsch index is 51, a very high value in the plasma physics community. He obtained his BSc diploma from UCLA, and his PhD from CalTech. Before entering academia, he has worked at Sandia National
Laboratories, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories, and he has also worked at Spectra Technologies Inc. In 1986 he started his academic career at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He remained with this university until 2004, when he moved to Iowa State University. In 2008, he move again, to his present position at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

During his entire career, Mark has been at the forefront of the field of plasma physics. Already when I just started as a PhD student, in 1984, I studied papers of the "great Kushner", who at that time took the lead world wide in the modeling of Radiofrequency plasmas for plasma etching. He was one of the first to give insight in the structure of the sheath, the space charge region around the glow area of the plasma. In 1996, I had to write a review on one of Mark's papers for the journal Physics World. I concluded that review by complimenting Mark's understanding and predictions of the behaviour of dust particles in various plasma regimes, but concluded with a remark that his simulations were indeed very useful and groundbreaking, but that an extension into threedimensional modeling was required to be able to realistically predict the behaviour. At that time, nobody in the world was even thinking about 3D simulations. When the Physics World review came out, I got a nice E-mail from Mark, in which he also stated: "well, we are close to finishing the 3D work too".. This was a decade before others dared to venture into this. Mark also was
the first to extend the modeling from fluid models into the world of hybrid modeling: an iterative approach of corpuscular, Monte Carlo, modeling and a fluid approach.

Mark has also not shied away from administration. When he became a dean in Urbana Champaign, I asked him how he would manage: how would he combine this administration with running a science group? His answer: "Just imagine how much time we all waste every day by sleeping..."

Mark was the first to combine two internationally leading conferences in the field of plasma physics: he was chair of the Executive Committee of the Gaseous Electronics Conference, when that was organized in conjunction with the Japanese ICRP. The location, Maui, Hawaii, however, probably also contributed to the success of that meeting.

We are very proud to have Mark as Doctor Honoris Causa of the Eindhoven University of Technology. He is THE person world wide who deserves this title. And we are even more proud that he is willing to join our University as Distinguished Professor. Mark: we all look forward to the fruitful cooperation that will arise from this. Once again, and now I speak on behalf of the whole community of Plasma Physics worldwide, I congratulate you with this honorary degree!