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Kaufman Award: Chenming Hu

by Paul McLellan

Published on 06-06-2013 01:44 AM

2 Comments

This year's Kaufman award winner is Chenming Hu. In contrast to previous years, this was presented on the Sunday evening of DAC instead of at a separate event in San Jose. Chenming's career was reviewed by Klaus Schuegraf, Group Vice President of EUV Product Development at Cymer, Inc (now part of ASML) and also one of the (many) students of Dr Hu.

One thing that I had no idea about was that Chenming had climbed Everest at the age of 50. That seems pretty much up there (see what I did) with inventing the FinFET. However, Dr Hu's career goes back a long way before the FinFET. He was instrumental in solving hot-electron problems back in the 1um (almost typed nm there, i'm so used to it) era. And then getting through the 3V scaling barrier.

But in addition to being the father of the FinFET, he is the father of the BSIM model. This was the first industry standard non-proprietary model and is now used by hundreds of companies (basically almost everyone) and has revolutionized many aspects of circuit simulation, making it more competitive and higher performance.

Lip-Bu, CEO of Cadence, briefly spoke. It turns out that Lip-Bu and Chenming are neighbors so they know each other well without the obvious semiconductor connection. Lip-Bu talked about a couple of boards that he is on with Chenming.



Chenming then accepted the award from Kathryn Kranen (chairman of EDAC)

Upcoming

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Places Around the Austin Convention Center

Paul McLellan 05-09-2013

**Bangers: the Best Beer Bar in Austin; Live Oak Brewing, the Best Beer in Austin**

Paul McLellan 05-07-2013

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Paul McLellan 04-19-2013

and Donatella Sciuto (president of IEEE CEDA). He talked briefly about his career. His first professor was Andy Grove so his relationship with Intel certainly goes back a long way. He has had countless students and today over 50 leaders in the industry went through various programs with him.

To wrap up, Dr Hu looked forward rather than back. Summarizing the FinFet's possibilities, he said:

- Great for digital
- Even better for analog
- Better stability and reliability
- Can be scaled to the end of lithography

Chenming Hu will be interviewed by Peggy Aycinena on the DAC pavilion panel at 11.15am later this morning. Technically the DAC pavilion is booth 509.

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2 Comments

Markowitz_ST_PR - 3 Weeks Ago

Reply

Dr. Hu also made significant contributions to the development of FD-SOI. As I didn't attend the ceremony in which he was recognized, I don't know whether those efforts were mentioned, but it is disappointing that the punditocracy has already decided an outcome -- in spite of evidence to the contrary...



Daniel Nenni - 3 Weeks Ago

Reply

I was there, it was not mentioned. The focus was the FinFET and BSIM, his family, his students, and his personal endeavors. He climbed Mt Everest at age 50 for example. Since Dr. Hu was not the "Father" of FD-SOI I see no reason for it to be mentioned at this event.

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