

# The Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya

hereby confers upon

## MARK S. WRIGHTON

The degree of

### Doctor

*honoris causa*

for his tremendous long-standing contribution to academia, science and service

Awarded at the Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya, Israel on 6 January 2019,  
in the 71<sup>st</sup> year of the Independence of the State of Israel and the 25<sup>th</sup> year of the Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya.

In testimony thereof we place our signatures:

**Mr. Oudi Recanati**  
Chair, Board of Directors

**Prof. Uriel Reichman**  
President and Founder

**Prof. Alex Mintz**  
Provost

**Prof. Aharon Barak**  
Head, PhD Committee

The Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya  
Awards the Doctor of Philosophy to  
Prof. Mark S. Wrighton  
Chancellor of Washington University in St. Louis

Mark S. Wrighton was elected the 14th Chancellor of Washington University in St. Louis in 1995 and has served as its chief executive officer, mentor to thousands and door opener for countless students. In the years following his appointment, the university has made significant progress in student quality, campus improvements, resource development, curriculum and international reputation.

Accomplishments during Chancellor Wrighton's tenure include a more than two-fold increase in undergraduate applications, more than 350 new endowed professorships for faculty, a redesigned Arts & Sciences curriculum, newly created programs in biomedical engineering, public health, American culture studies, and completion of more than 50 new buildings for Arts & Sciences, business, design and visual arts, engineering, law, medicine, social work, and residential life.

Under Wrighton's visionary leadership, Washington University in St. Louis established the McDonnell International Scholars Academy, of which IDC Herzliya has been a long-time partner institution. This great partnership has led to considerable collaborative work in research and learning in ageing, energy and sustainability.

Wrighton earned his BS degree with honors in chemistry from Florida State University in 1969. He did his graduate work at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), receiving his PhD there in 1972. Based on his research accomplishments, Wrighton was named the first recipient of the Herbert Newby McCoy Award at Caltech.

Wrighton started his career at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1972 as assistant professor of chemistry. From 1981 until 1989 he held the Frederick G. Keyes Chair in Chemistry. In 1989 he was appointed the first holder of the Ciba-Geigy Chair in Chemistry. He was Head of the Department of Chemistry from 1987-90 and became Provost of MIT in 1990, a post he held until the summer of 1995.

Wrighton is the author or co-author of more than 300 articles published in professional and scholarly journals, and he holds 16 patents. He has research interests in the areas of transition metal catalysis, photochemistry, surface chemistry, molecular electronics and in photo processes at electrodes. He was awarded an Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship (1974-76) and was the recipient of a Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Grant (1975-80). From the American Chemical Society he received the Pure Chemistry Award in 1981 and the Award in Inorganic Chemistry in 1988. In 1983 he was awarded a MacArthur Prize Fellowship. Also in 1983, he received the Gregory and Freda Halpern Award in Photochemistry by the New York Academy of Sciences and the E. O. Lawrence Award by the United States Department of Energy. In 1984 he was selected as the recipient of the Fresenius Award of Phi Lambda Upsilon. About 70 individuals earned the PhD degree under his supervision at MIT.

Wrighton was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (1986), the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1988), and the National Academy of Inventors (2013). In 2001, he was elected to membership in the American Philosophical Society.

Wrighton currently serves on the board of directors of several bodies and he serves as a trustee of BJC Healthcare, the Institute of International Education and the St. Louis Science Center. Wrighton is also a member of Civic Progress St. Louis.

Wrighton has been a great supporter of the local Hillel and Chabad House, and has co-hosted, with his wife, Ms. Risa Zwerling Wrighton, Passover Eve Seder dinners, and other holiday and Shabbat meals. Risa, the first lady of Washington University in St. Louis, holds degrees from Barnard College, University of Maryland and Washington University in St. Louis. She graciously welcomes students, alumni, faculty, and friends of the university to events large and small. She deploys her prodigious maternal skills to support and nurture members of the campus community, creating the Home Plate program whereby local families in the community provide home-hospitality for students away from home. Risa is also a strong supporter of Chabad on campus and a vocal gun control advocate. In 2009, the Wrightons received the Morris and Ann Lazaroff Lamplighter Award presented by Chabad of Greater St. Louis. We salute her.

In recent years, Chancellor Wrighton has been a strong voice for academic freedom, discussion and debate, vigorously opposing the boycott of academia in Israel.

Wrighton embraces innovative programming at the University and as such has fully supported the Olin School's "Israel Summer Business Academy" run at IDC Herzliya for many years. Hundreds of students from across the globe have experienced Israel and our entrepreneurial spirit through this marvelous program. This program, together with student and faculty exchanges across several schools, and a certificate program in entrepreneurship, has cemented our relationship.

Therefore, in recognition of his creativity, singular thought leadership, sustained growth management and significant contribution to science, academia and society in the United States of America and internationally, Prof. Mark S. Wrighton is hereby named as the first Doctor of Philosophy bestowed by the Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya.

**Prof. Uriel Reichman**  
President and Founder

6 January 2019  
Herzliya, Israel