

SRI International Alumni Association

2020 Hall of Fame Award

Presented to

Murray Baron

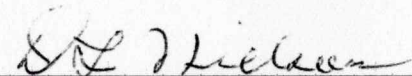
**for exceptional contributions to the enduring success of SRI International.
Presented on this fifteenth day of October, two thousand and twenty.**

Throughout his 41-plus years at SRI, Dr. Murray Baron exhibited exemplary technical and organizational leadership. On the technical side are his contributions to ionospheric research and his role in the unique acquisition of data on the effects of nuclear explosions on radar systems. On the organizational side are his leadership of Europe's first high-latitude tristatic ionospheric incoherent-scatter facility and leadership of SRI's Radio Physics Laboratory, Geoscience and Engineering Division, Advanced Development Division, and Radio Science and Engineering Division.

After joining SRI in 1959, Murray introduced digital computers to process the data from a study of dynamic ionosphere effects on radars to detect transpolar missile attacks, in a polar environment plagued by the natural aurora background. Thereafter, on Johnston Island Murray led the capture and processing of the first radar data from high-altitude nuclear explosions over the remote central Pacific. Murray returned to the auroral zone to continue assessing radar performance and led SRI's first use of incoherent electron scatter, a new technique for probing the ionosphere. Ultimately, the SRI scatter radars were located in Alaska and in Greenland, where they operated for 11 and 35 years, respectively. These successes led to an award to SRI for construction of phased-array radars that are still operating in Canada and Alaska and also to the operation of the Arecibo Observatory radio telescope in Puerto Rico. Murray brought to SRI the leadership and staff to ensure Arecibo ongoing success that resulted in approximately \$200 million in revenue.

From 1982 to 1985, Murray served as the second director of Europe's first high-latitude endeavor, EISCAT (European Incoherent Scatter Scientific Association), overseeing the development of its nascent radar systems into robust, reliable technologies and adopting new algorithms for data acquisition and processing that enabled better physical insights.

On his return to SRI, Murray excelled in leadership positions until his retirement in 2001. Since then, he has been a consistent leader in the SRI Alumni Association.



Don Nielson, Chair
Alumni Association Steering Committee