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Siminovitch Named First Rosenfeld Chair in Energy Efficiency at UC Davis

DAVIS, CA – Professor Michael Siminovitch has been appointed the first Arthur H. Rosenfeld Chair in Energy Efficiency at the University of California, Davis. Siminovitch was selected for his innovative work in the field of energy-efficient lighting.

"The chair honors not only the very distinguished recipient but the amazing Art Rosenfeld, who is widely recognized as the father of energy efficiency," explains UC Davis Professor Nicole Woolsey Biggart, director of the Energy Efficiency Center at UC Davis and a lead member of the selection committee.

"Dr. Rosenfeld was my advisor in graduate school," says Professor Siminovitch. "His ideas on energy efficiency influenced and guided my studies and, ultimately, my career. I am really honored to receive this chair, particularly because it bears his name."

The Rosenfeld Chair recognizes Siminovitch's contributions as a teacher and a mentor at UC Davis, and as director of the university's California Lighting Technology Center (CLTC). A nonprofit, CLTC develops energy-efficient lighting technologies and works to get them into widespread use. From solid-state lighting (SSL) solutions and "smart" controls to the CALCTP green jobs training program and case study demonstrations, the Center works with a broad range of organizations (including lighting manufacturers, utilities, energy regulators, and other university research labs) on a variety of projects.

CLTC's work has been vital to the success of California's Public Interest Energy Research (PIER) program. PIER-demonstrated technologies, including advanced lighting and HVAC solutions, now save the state an estimated 167 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) each year—enough to offset the annual electricity use for 5,760 homes. The Rosenfeld Chair supports Professor Siminovitch's continued efforts to advance energy efficiency through research, education and professional collaborations in the lighting industry.

"This is a wonderful gift from a broad community of people who understand that saving energy has financial and environmental impacts that benefit our whole society," says Professor Biggart. Donors supporting the Rosenfeld Chair in Energy Efficiency include: PG&E, Sempra Energy, Southern California Edison, the California Clean Energy Fund, Chevron, the Climate Works Foundation, Exelon Corporation, Goldman Sachs, Power Integrations, Inc., and Wendy and Eric Schmidt.

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About the UC Davis Energy Efficiency Center (EEC)

The EEC's mission is to accelerate the commercialization of energy efficiency technologies, train future leaders in energy efficiency, and conduct critical policy-supporting research. More information is at eec.ucdavis.edu.

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