

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**REQUEST TO AWARD AN HONORARY DOCTOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE
AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**

Action Requested: Consider approval of the request by Iowa State University to award an honorary Doctor of Science degree to Robert N. Shelton at Spring 2011 Commencement.

Executive Summary: Iowa State University wishes to recognize Dr. Shelton for his pioneering work in superconductivity and magnetism, and for his outstanding scientific and academic leadership in major administrative positions at several universities, including as president of the University of Arizona.

Details on Dr. Shelton's Accomplishments:

- ◇ Dr. Shelton received a Bachelor of Science degree in physics from Stanford University (1970) and Master of Science and Ph.D. degrees in physics from the University of California, San Diego (1973, 1975).
- ◇ He began his academic career at the University of California, San Diego as an assistant research physicist in 1975. In 1978, he joined the faculty at Iowa State University and was promoted to professor in 1984. In 1987, he joined the faculty at the University of California, Davis as professor and chair of the Department of Physics; in 1990, he was appointed Vice Chancellor for Research and in 1996 he was appointed as Vice Provost for Research. In 2001, he joined the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill as Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost and in 2006 he was named President of the University of Arizona.
- ◇ Dr. Shelton's research focused on collective electron effects in novel materials and he made many significant contributions to the advancement of superconductivity and superconductive materials. Before turning his full attention to academic administration in 2002, he amassed an impressive record of publications, including approximately 250 refereed articles in the leading scientific journals and more than 5,400 citations.
- ◇ He was a guest scientist at the *Kernforschungsanlage* in Julich, Germany in Summer 1981 and the Institute of Metals in Tokyo in Spring 1990. In 1983-84, he was a visiting professor at the University of Geneva, Switzerland. He is an editor of the *Journal of Physics and Chemistry of Solids*. In 1995, he was elected a Fellow of the American Physical Society.
- ◇ ISU described Dr. Shelton in the following way: "In addition to his international reputation as an outstanding physicist, Dr. Shelton is an accomplished national leader in higher education with an expansive vision of academic excellence. Furthermore, he has provided vital leadership on the national research agenda."