

Dr. Kurt E. Shuler receives Gold Medal Award from U.S. Dept. of Commerce

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Dr. Kurt E. Shuler, chairman of the Department of Chemistry at the University of California, San Diego, has been chosen to receive the Gold Medal Award from the U.S. Department of Commerce for "outstanding contributions to the field of chemical physics."

Dr. Shuler, a former Senior Research Fellow at the National Bureau of Standards in Washington, D.C., will receive the award from the Secretary of Commerce on Tuesday, October 29, at the Twentieth Annual Honor Awards Program of the Department of Commerce in the nation's capital.

Dr. Shuler joined the National Bureau of Standards in 1955 and was appointed Consultant to the Director in 1960. In 1963 he was named Senior Research Fellow and Assistant Director at the Bureau and was the first federal employee to be appointed to a "super-grade" level in the U.S. Government solely for his scientific work.

He joined the faculty at UCSD in October, 1968, after serving for two quarters as Visiting Professor of Chemistry and Visiting Research Fellow in the Institute for Radiation Physics and Aerodynamics.

His primary interests are in the field of chemical physics. His most recent research has been in nonequilibrium rate processes, energy transfer and the theory of stochastic processes. He is well known for his work in kinetic flame spectroscopy, vibrational relaxation in gases, and his recent research on the application of the theory of stochastic processes to nonequilibrium rate processes.

Dr. Shuler was born in Nuremberg, Germany, in 1922 and came to the United States in 1937. He received a B.S. degree in chemistry from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta in 1942. After serving in the U.S. Army, he entered Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., where he received a Ph.D. degree in physical chemistry in 1949.