

AES Distinguished Lecture Series

What's Coming, Whether We Like It or Not

C. D. Mote, Jr. | President, National Academy of Engineering

Friday, Nov 7 | 3:30 PM Reception in Atrium; 4-5 PM Lecture | Benson 180

Predicting the future is unreliable. However, simply recognizing the direction to the future, when it is little changing, is often useful for planning purposes. Such was the case for university planning during the period of great stability 1945-1990. However, when the direction to the future changes, as it did during the 1990s, guidance is influenced by the new, 21st century direction whatever it may be.

This presentation addresses these 20th and 21st century directions, and offers observations drawn from the 21st century direction that may be useful in university planning today. Planning for the 21st century direction, and stepping away from planning for the 20th century direction that no longer exists, is surprisingly difficult but necessary to at least consider.

C. D. Mote, Jr. is President of the National Academy of Engineering and Regents Professor, on leave, from the University of Maryland, College Park.

Dr. Mote earned his BS, MS, and PhD degrees at the University of California, Berkeley in mechanical engineering between 1959 and 1963. After a postdoctoral year in England and three years as an assistant professor at the Carnegie Institute of Technology in Pittsburgh, he returned to Berkeley to join the faculty in mechanical engineering for the next 31 years. He and his students investigated a wide range of problems in dynamics, controls and biomechanical engineering. Fifty-eight PhD students earned their degrees under his mentorship.

At Berkeley, he held an endowed chair in mechanical systems and served as chair of the mechanical engineering department from 1987 to 1991, and in 1991 he was appointed vice chancellor of the university expressly to create and lead a \$1 billion capital campaign for the campus that ultimately reached \$1.4 billion. In 1998, Dr. Mote was recruited to the presidency of the University of Maryland, College Park, a position he held until 2010 when he was appointed Regents Professor. His goal for the university was to elevate its self-expectation of achievement and its national and global position through proactive initiatives. During his tenure, he founded a 130-acre research park next to the campus, faculty research funds increased by 150%, and partnerships with surrounding federal agencies and with international organizations expanded greatly, among other achievements.

Dr. Mote's recognitions include the NAE Founders Award, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Medal, and the Humboldt Prize of the Federal Republic of Germany. At the University of California, Berkeley, he was honored with the Distinguished Teaching Award, Distinguished Engineering Alumnus Award, Berkeley Citation, and Excellence in Achievement Award. He is an Honorary Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Academy of Mechanics, the Acoustical Society of America and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He holds three honorary doctorates and two honorary professorships.

For more info on this seminar, contact Prof. Mahmoud Hussein at mih@colorado.edu

