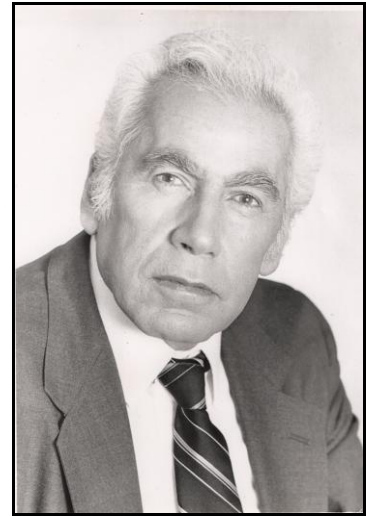


## **A Letter to our Readers Regarding this Special Issue on Thermodynamics Dedicated to Dr. Yehia M. El-Sayed**

The papers in this special issue are dedicated to the memory of Dr. Yehia M. El-Sayed, who along with Profs. Myron Tribus and Robert Evans are known for their pioneering work in the field of Thermoeconomics. Dr. El-Sayed's many contributions to this field as well as to multi-effect and multi-stage desalination, gas/steam combined power plants, and advanced energy conversion systems and components cannot be overstated. To honor him and to show the high regard in which his body of work is held, my guest editors, Profs. Richard Gaggioli and Enrico Sciubba, and I have asked a number of the principal thermoeconomic contributors, who have followed in his footsteps, to author papers, which in some way implicitly or explicitly attest to the work he has done in laying the foundations for their work. The subjects covered include a number of very diverse topics, ranging from a discussion of the thermodynamic dead state to the use of entropy minimization for the design of multi-flash desalination processes to an extension of exergy-based methods for the improvement of energy-conversion systems to the use of thermoeconomics for the design and analysis of district heating networks to the dynamic optimization of the operation of a trigeneration system to the calculation of fuel and mineral thermoeconomic costs to an assessment of Dr. El-Sayed's contributions to the thermoeconomic analysis of dual-purpose power and desalination plants. I hope that you find these papers as interesting as I have. However, before proceeding, I encourage you to read the testimonials contributed by my two guest editors, which not only outline Dr. El-Sayed's many technical and scientific contributions but pay tribute to Yehia as a friend, a colleague, and a mentor. Dr. El-Sayed's accomplishments are also summarized in his CV found at <http://www.ijotcat.com/index.php/IJoT/article/view/461/412>.



*Dr. Yehia M. El-Sayed*

Michael R. von Spakovsky  
Editor-in-Chief  
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