

In Memoriam: David Hubel

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In Memoriam: David Hubel

Nobel Prize winning neurophysiologist David Hubel passed away on September 22, 2013. Many members of the Dalhousie University community had the privilege of meeting and working with David, especially during his time at Dal from 2004-2006.

In 1958, David began a long collaboration with Torsten Wiesel. The Hubel and Wiesel collaboration continued into the late 1970s, culminating with the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1981. Hubel and Wiesel's research provided fundamental insight into information processing and development in the visual system and laid the foundation for the field of visual neuroscience.

In 1998, David received an Honorary Degree from Dal. In 2004, he was named the Picchione Visiting Scholar at Dal. He described his stay here as, "most profitable," enjoying research activities and teaching both graduate and undergraduate classes. His second book, *Brain and Visual Perception*, was released while he was here, and the very first copy was sent to his Dal address.

At the end of his sabbatical at Dal, David and his wife, Ruth, left a donation to the Undergraduate Neuroscience Prize, which was thereafter renamed the David and Ruth Hubel Undergraduate Neuroscience prize. This Prize is awarded to a fourth-year honours student, who, in the assessment of the Undergraduate Program Committee, shows outstanding potential as a researcher in Neuroscience.

The son of the late Jesse and Elsie Hubel, David was husband of the late S. Ruth Hubel (Izzard). David is survived by three sons: Carl, Eric and Paul, two granddaughters, Anna and Mae, and two grandsons, Nathaniel and Thomas. David is also survived by family members including Carl's wife Kathy and Paul's wife Claire, nieces Susan Orenstein and V. Louise Roth, Ruth's brother, Grant Izzard, and his family in Canada, and the Glenn family of Pennsylvania. David was pre-deceased by sister Joan Roth and niece Linda Roth.

A memorial service for family and friends will be held at the Harvard Memorial Church on 16 November, 2013 at 2 pm. Reception to follow. Memorial donations may be made to a newly established [David H. Hubel undergraduate neuroscience research fund](#).

There will be a large public celebration of David's scientific achievements in the spring of 2014 (date and time TBA), organized by the Department of Neurobiology, Harvard Medical School. More information can be found at: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/bostonglobe/obituary.aspx?n=david-hunter-hubel&pid=167127990&fhid=4277>