

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Alfred Msezane

PERSON

Msezane, Alfred Z., 1938-

Alternative Names: Alfred Msezane;

Life Dates: December 31, 1938-

Place of Birth: South Africa

Work: Atlanta, GA

Occupations: Physicist

Biographical Note

Research physicist Alfred Z. Msezane was born on December 31, 1938 in South Africa. His father, Albert, was a businessman and his mother, Esther, a housewife. Msezane enrolled in the University of South Africa in 1960, where he studied the shape and behavior of one of the most fundamental particles – the electron. Msezane graduated from the University of South Africa in 1964 with his B.S. degree in physics. Msezane then travelled to Canada to conduct research and study at the University of Saskatchewan in

Ontario, Canada, where he received his M.S. degree in physics in 1968. Msezane returned to South Africa for a year to conduct research at the Nuclear Physics Research Unit of Witwaterstrand University. Msezane received his Ph.D. degree in physics from the University of Western Ontario in 1973.

Msezane started his long career as a college professor at the University of New Brunswick in 1973 and became a physics instructor in 1976. Msezane immigrated to United States from Canada to complete his postdoctoral research at the Georgia State University in 1974. From 1978 to 1980, he served as a visiting professor at Louisiana State University. In 1980, Msezane joined the faculty of Morehouse College as an assistant professor of physics. He left Morehouse College in 1983 to become a professor at Atlanta University and served as chair of the physics department from 1986 to 1989. In 1988, Atlanta University merged with Clark University to become Clark Atlanta University, and Msezane remained on as a professor of physics. Msezane is the director of the Center for Theoretical Studies of Physical Systems (CTSPS) at Clark Atlanta University. His research team investigates mathematical physics theory, solid matter, and image processing. Msezane's research on electron interaction with matter and electron configuration within the atom has resulted in over 260 research papers published in scholarly journals.

Msezane is also a member of several professional societies, including the American Physical Society (APS) and the National Society of Black Physicists (NSBP). Msezane was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Science degree from the University of Fort Hare (South Africa) in 1998, and is a recipient of the World University Service Scholarship.

Alfred Msezane works in Atlanta, Georgia.

Alfred Msezane was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on December 11, 2012.

Related Entries

Western University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Ph.D.

University of Saskatchewan [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

M.S.

University of South Africa [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

B.S.

Witwatersrand University [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1988 to ?]

Research Assistant

University of Western Ontario [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1973 to 1974]

Teaching Assistant

Georgia State University [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1974 to 1976]

Postdoctoral Researcher

University of New Brunswick [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1978 to 1982]

Instructor

Louisiana State University [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1978 to 1980]

Visiting Assistant Professor

Morehouse College [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 198506 to 198711]

Associate Professor

Atlanta University [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1983 to 1992]

Chair and Professor

Clark Atlanta University [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1990 to ?]

Professor and Research Director

American Physical Society (APS) [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Institute of Physics [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

**American Association for the Advancement of
Science (AAAS)** [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

American Association of Physics Teachers [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

American Association of University Professors
[MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

National Society of Black Physicists (NSBP) [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]