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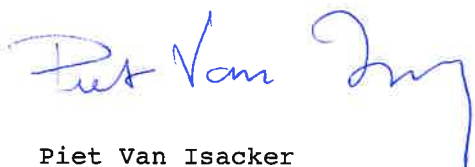
Recommendation for Peter Otto Hess Bechstedt

I am writing in support of Peter Hess who has been proposed as a Professor Emeritus at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. I met Peter Hess for the first time during my visit in Mexico from 1981 to 1983 when I was a visiting fellow at the Instituto de Física and the Centro de Estudios Nucleares at UNAM. I have never directly collaborated with Peter Hess but I have had, over the years, countless scientific discussions with him, and I have listened to many of his talks at conferences.

As a student of the well-known German physics professor Walter Greiner, Peter Hess has made a strong impact at a young age in the domain of nuclear physics. His work was and still is characterized by the use of group theory. This elegant branch of mathematics is particularly applied by the physicists of the UNAM, under the impulse of the late professor Marcos Moshinsky, of whom Peter Hess was a student and collaborator. The education of Peter Hess in mathematical physics, therefore, has been of the highest standard, and this shows in the impeccable quality of his work. Since his early studies in the framework of the collective model of the nucleus due to Gneuss and Greiner, Peter Hess has made numerous contributions in the field of nuclear-structure physics such as the study of nuclear molecules or the physics of shape transitions and shape coexistence, and he has become a well-known researcher in this field with a very good international reputation. He also branched out into other fields of physics and, in particular, made important contributions to QCD (quantum chromodynamics, the theory of the strong interaction between quarks and gluons), the study of double-beta decay, and also to problems in general relativity.

In my opinion, Peter Hess has made important contributions to nuclear physics and to physics in general, and therefore I unreservedly support his nomination as a Professor Emeritus.

Yours sincerely,



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