

RESOLUTION  
ON THE RETIREMENT OF  
PROFESSOR EDWARD J. MASKALENKO

Adopted by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences

May 16, 1994

The faculty of Electrical Engineering, with the faculty of Arts and Sciences, hereby record their appreciation for their retiring colleague, Professor Edward J. Maskalenko. Tufts University has been the beneficiary of forty-six years of diligent and intelligent service.

Professor Maskalenko obtained his education through the G.I. Bill. After serving as a Army Air Force countermeasures officer in Italy during World War II, he completed his education at Harvard. He received his M.S. degree in 1948. On an chance remark from his advisor at Harvard, he visited with the then chairman of Tufts Department of Electrical Engineering, Alvin Howell, and took a position with the Department immediately on graduation, a modest start to a long, fruitful career on our faculty.

During his first fourteen years on the campus, he worked with Professor Howell on high-altitude research, first using V2 rockets and then balloons. However, his most memorable contribution in those years was in the classroom where, in an undermanned department, he uncomplainingly shouldered the burden of three, and sometimes four courses a semester. Three of our present engineering faculty are a product of his industry during those years.

Ed to his colleagues, machine-gun Ed to his students, Professor Maskalenko, like many electrical engineers of his generation, had his formal education in electric power. But his teaching credits include courses across our curriculum. A high-energy person, as the father of six children must be, over the years he has

mastered and taught a wide variety of topics, impressing generations of students with his detailed knowledge of everything from pulse and digital circuits to semiconductors.

During his middle years as a department member, Ed played a key role in shaping the department curriculum, helping first Professor Howell, and then Professor Uhler, to fashion and maintain an up-to-date educational program. This was a constant task, as the technology of the vacuum tube gave way to the transistor, and then the integrated circuit; as the analog computer became a commonplace only to be displaced by the digital computer; and as topics once reserved for graduate students became elements in our junior courses.

In 1975 Professor Maskalenko was appointed chairman of his department, a position he held for 13 years. When he assumed the chair, the department was still suffering from the dramatic fall in enrollments that had occurred in the early 70's. It was operating with a reduced faculty, low student interest, and in quarters that were drab in the extreme. When he stepped down in 1988 department enrollments had reached record levels, faculty size was the largest the department had enjoyed, we had an Electro-optics Center, and Hooper Laboratory, with a complete renovation, had become Halligan Hall.

Recognizing the importance of the emerging computer technology, Maskalenko introduced a degree program in Computer Engineering, complete with an extensive VLSI laboratory. This program is, on his retirement, the most popular one offered by his department.

Ed relinquished the chair to take up the position of Associate Dean of the College, a position he held for 5 years. His mastery of university regulations, coupled with his untiring devotion to students and patience with faculty made him uniquely qualified for the task and an invaluable asset to the College administration.

A committed academic with service on over 24 Tufts committees, Director of our Tufts/Sussex Study Abroad program, member of the Visiting Committee for the Electrical Engineering Department of Merrimack College, Member of the Board of Doble Engineering, seer and counsellor, most of all educator par excellence, Ed Maskalenko embodies the meaning of "Tufts Teacher". Our faculty salutes him.

I move that this resolution be spread across the minutes of this meeting of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and that a copy be sent to Professor Maskalenko.

For the Faculty

Denis Fermental, Chairman  
Department of Electrical Engineering