

Don Morelli received his BS and PhD degrees in physics from the University of Michigan in 1981 and 1985, respectively. He joined General Motors Research Laboratories as a Senior Research Scientist in 1985 and moved to Delphi Corporation Research Labs in 1999, where he was Staff Research Scientist and Group Leader of the nanomaterials group. Don received two GM Campbell Awards (1992 and 1997) for fundamental scientific research, the International Thermal Conductivity Conferences Fellowship Award (1993), and the Delphi Scientific Excellence Award (2004). He has been elected Fellow of the American Physical Society (2005) and was inducted into the Delphi Corporation Innovation Hall of Fame (2006). In 2007 Don joined the faculty at Michigan State University where he is Professor of Materials Science. He has published over eighty scientific papers, coauthored four book chapters, and received twenty one U.S. patents (eight of which focus on thermoelectric materials or devices). His research has spanned a variety of topics, including: semimetals, conducting polymers, high temperature superconductors, wide and narrow band gap semiconductors, high thermal conductivity crystals, thermoelectric materials, and magnetism. While at GM Don, together with Greg Meisner, initiated the first experimental studies of filled skutterudites for thermoelectric materials and provided the first experimental evidence of “phonon-glass electron crystal” behavior in these compounds. He managed GM’s first waste heat recovery program beginning in 1994, a joint effort with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. His research group at MSU continues to emphasize new semiconductors for thermoelectric energy conversion, as well as materials for thermal management and photocatalytic hydrogen generation.