

**Sigma Xi**  
**The Scientific Research Society**



**Devoted to the Promotion of Research in Science**

*By this Certificate Warrants that*

**Tamas Zoltan Hegedus**

*was duly elected a Member*

*by the*

*University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill Chapter  
of the Society in the year 2009*

*and has accepted the privileges and responsibilities of this  
membership as specified by the constitution and bylaws.*



*Jerome Baker*

Executive Director

*Ann H. Williams*

President

*Penelope Padgett*

Chapter President

*Ann H. Williams*

Chapter Secretary



Dear Initiate:

It is my pleasure to welcome you as a new member of Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society. With your induction into the Society, you have joined a cadre of distinguished and committed researchers around the world, numbering nearly 60000 active members today. Throughout our more than 120 years of history, scientists and engineers from a wide range of disciplines—including over 200 Nobel Laureates—have united under our auspices as companions in zealous research. Thus, Sigma Xi membership connects you to both a global scientific network and a venerable scientific legacy.

But we are much more than an organization designed to honor those who have made noteworthy contributions in research. By accepting membership into Sigma Xi, you have pledged “to encourage original investigation in science, to foster companionship and cooperation among scientists, and to maintain honor, integrity and honesty in all scientific activities.”

That pledge means more today than ever before. In these first few years of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, it is clear that the research community and society as a whole are being profoundly impacted by critical, penetrating issues. Sigma Xi has already mobilized to address some of them, driven by our mission “to improve the human condition.” We are providing the United Nations with practical, expert recommendations for mitigating and adapting to global climate change. We are helping to preserve and protect true science education in the classroom. And we are leading the grassroots movement to bring researchers and the general public together in meaningful dialogue—not only to enhance society’s understanding of science but also to enlighten science’s sense of social responsibility.

Daunting challenges like these merit the active support of our membership. There are many ways and opportunities to participate in Sigma Xi initiatives, through our chapters as well as through our Center in Research Triangle Park. In stepping up to these challenges, you transcend the *personal* honor of your own past accomplishments to achieve a greater good: that of giving back to the community that has both nurtured and lauded you, through service. This is the real honor of Sigma Xi membership, with a capital “H.” On behalf of the entire Society, I invite you to join us in serving our communal Honor.

As you step out now from your initiation into the fullness of membership, we’ll be keeping you informed of the Society’s many resources, activities and opportunities for involvement. This news will come to you via *Sigma Xi Today* (featured in *American Scientist* magazine) and via regular member e-newsletters. In addition, you can always find a wealth of information at our Web site. And please feel free to contact us at any time if you have any questions about your membership ([memberinfo@sigmaxi.org](mailto:memberinfo@sigmaxi.org)).

We’re proud that your outstanding achievements have earned you a place within our international community of scientists and engineers. Once again, welcome to Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society! May you enjoy a rich and rewarding relationship with us for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Jerome Baker, Ph. D.  
Executive Director

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