2007 Microwave Pioneer Award

The Microwave Pioneer Award recognizes an individual or a team not exceeding three persons having made outstanding pioneering technical contributions that advance microwave theory and techniques and described in an archival paper published at least 20 years prior to the year of the award. This year’s recipient is the team of Alan D. Sokal and Nathan O. Sokal whose citation reads: "FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE CLASS E POWER AMPLIFIER".

Alan Sokal obtained his bachelor's and master's degrees in physics at Harvard (1976) and his Ph.D. in physics at Princeton (1981).

His main research interests are in statistical mechanics and quantum field theory. He is currently a Professor of Physics at New York University and a Professor of Mathematics at University College London. He is co-author with Roberto Fernandez and Jurg Frohlich of Random Walks, Critical Phenomena, and Triviality in Quantum Field Theory (Springer, 1992), and co-author with Jean Bricmont of Fashionable Nonsense: Postmodern Intellectuals’ Abuse of Science (Picador USA, 1998).

During his student years, he collaborated with his father, Nathan Sokal, in inventing the Class E RF power amplifier as well as improved envelope-elimination-and-restoration (EER) schemes for linear RF power amplification. They were together awarded U.S. Patents 3,900,823 and 3,919,656 for these inventions.