



Calhoun: The NPS Institutional Archive
DSpace Repository

NPS Scholarship

Publications

1990

Biography: Dr. Richard W. Hamming

Hamming, Richard W.

Monterey, California: Naval Postgraduate School

<https://hdl.handle.net/10945/58503>

This publication is a work of the U.S. Government as defined in Title 17, United States Code, Section 101. Copyright protection is not available for this work in the United States.

Downloaded from NPS Archive: Calhoun



Calhoun is the Naval Postgraduate School's public access digital repository for research materials and institutional publications created by the NPS community. Calhoun is named for Professor of Mathematics Guy K. Calhoun, NPS's first appointed -- and published -- scholarly author.

Dudley Knox Library / Naval Postgraduate School
411 Dyer Road / 1 University Circle
Monterey, California USA 93943

<http://www.nps.edu/library>

BIOGRAPHY

DR. RICHARD W. HAMMING

Dr. Richard W. Hamming, NPS computer science professor, and one of the country's most distinguished scientists, was named the first recipient of the Hamming medal by The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). The medal was established in 1986, named in honor of Dr. Hamming, for exceptional contributions to information sciences and systems.

Dr. Hamming also received the Emanuel R. Piore Award in September 1979, for "introduction of error-correcting codes, pioneering work in operating systems and programming languages, and the advancement of numerical computation."

In 1968, Professor Hamming was awarded the Turing Prize by the Association of Computer Machinery. This award recognized his contributions to computer science.

Professor Hamming worked at Los Alamos in 1945-46 doing atomic bomb calculations. He worked at Bell Telephone Laboratories from 1946-1976. During that period he was an adjunct professor of statistics at Princeton University for three years. Since 1976 he has been Professor of Computer Science at the Naval Postgraduate School. He teaches courses on information and coding theory, simulation and modeling, calculus and a seminar on advanced computer science topics.

Dr. Hamming has mainly worked in mathematics and computing as applied to military and telephone research. He has published seven books and over seventy-five technical reports. He is best known for his work in coding and information theory (Hamming code), digital filters (Hamming spectral window) and numerical methods. His book, Numerical Methods for Scientists and Engineers, has been widely used for 17 years. His two most recent books are Digital Filters (1977) and Information and Coding Theory (1979).

In addition, he has served as president of the Association for Computing Machinery, as vice president of the mathematics section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and as served as editor of numerous computer science, mathematics and engineering journals.