University of Haifa

The Senate of the University of Haifa, by virtue of the authority vested in it
by the constitution of the University and in accordance with the recommendations
of the President and the Executive Committee

hereby confers upon

Hossam Haick

the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy, Honoris Causa

In recognition of his groundbreaking achievements and significant contribution to the development of cutting-edge approaches to non-invasive medical diagnosis of early-stage disease; for his extraordinary abilities to apply his research findings into advanced and efficient medical devices; for his continued investment in the education of a future generation of scientists and his recognition that the best investment is in promoting research and knowledge among young people; for his contribution and extensive community activities that support the integration of technology in the educational system, and for his work to advance higher education in Israel.

Conferred on 12 Sivan 5777/June 6, 2017
Haifa, Israel

Mooly Eden
Chairman of the Executive Committee

Prof. Ron Robin
President

Prof. Gustavo Mesch
Rector

PROFESSOR HOSSAM HAICK

Hossam Haick was born in 1975 in Nazareth to a Christian Arab family. After receiving his BSc degree in Chemical Engineering from Ben-Gurion University, Prof. Haick went on to study at the Technion on a special direct PhD track. He completed two years of postdoctoral work in Molecular Electronics at the Weizmann Institute of Science, followed by another two at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), where he researched electrical devices based on nanomaterials and "electronic noses". Upon his return to Israel in 2006, he joined the Department of Chemical Engineering and the Russell Berrie Nanotechnology Institute at the Technion, where he is now a full professor with full tenure.

The ground-breaking developments at the heart of Prof. Haick's work focus on quick diagnosis of cancer and other diseases based on the patient's breath or on chemical markers emitted from the skin. The easy-to-operate diagnostic devices are fitted with tiny, non-invasive sensor systems that sniff out and "read" disease biomarkers through the breath or the skin, allowing the patient to carry on normal activities. The data is transmitted from the system to a microchip for interpretation and provides results and recommendations to the physician and/or the user.

Prof. Haick has had the honor of being included in more than 30 international ranking lists. He was, for example, selected in 2008 for inclusion in TR35 - the MIT Technology Review list of the 35 top young scientists in the world - while in 2013 he was named as one of the 50 Brightest Minds in the country. In 2015, Prof. Haick and his Sniffphone invention were selected by Nominet Trust 100 (London) as one of the 100 most inspiring in the field of digital technology in the world. Prof. Haick was also included in '2016 GOOD 100', an annual list of 100 extraordinary people in the world, according to Good magazine, Los Angeles.

As well as the above accolades, Prof. Haick has received more than 64 international prizes and honors, including the Humboldt Research Award, and the Knight of the Order of Academic Palms, conferred by the government of France. Prof. Haick has also been given the highest teaching award granted by the Technion – the Yanai Prize for Excellence in Academic Education.

In 2014, Prof. Haick led a massive open online course (MOOC) in two different languages on "nanotechnology and nanosensor", with an enrollment of more than 98,000 men and women from more than 103 countries.

Prof. Haick holds more than 36 patents for his inventions, and has published more than 200 articles in international journals in the fields of nanotechnology, advanced materials, and medicine. In addition to his extensive scientific work, Prof. Haick dedicates time to meeting with students, voluntary activities to promote higher education and the technology educational system, and supporting academicians and researchers.