

WEB EXTRA The full roster of Cohen Challenge donors is at www.bu.edu/doubleit/donorroster.html. Learn more about the Annual Fund and about how BU's schools and colleges use donations at www.bu.edu/annualfund.

mind" to the possibilities of education, has supported the University in many ways over the years. He serves on the Board of Trustees and has established a scholarship and a professorship. He was also the first donor to the challenge he made to the BU community, increasing his own Annual Fund gift this year, then matching the increased amount. Thousands of others followed his lead.

The money raised through the challenge, which ended at midnight on June 30, will go to a variety of BU initiatives. "The whole point of giving is to make a difference," says Cohen, who designated his \$1 million contribution to scholarships and emergency financial aid that will give more qualified students access to a BU education. The BU community's collective \$1.3 million Annual Fund gift will be used to support the University's immediate needs—within the schools, colleges, and programs chosen by each donor—including financial aid, travel and research costs for faculty and students, career services, student organizations, and improved classroom technology.

Cohen's primary motivation in issuing his challenge

← Richard Cohen says his Boston University education opened his mind. He wants to ensure that students today have the same experience.

FRED SWAY



Elie Wiesel Gets a Place in the Firmament

Newly discovered asteroid named for Nobel laureate

LAST SPRING, A minor planet—also known as an asteroid—discovered by an amateur astronomer was named "Eliewiesel" in honor of 1986 Nobel Peace Prize laureate and Boston University Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities Elie Wiesel (Hon.'74).

R. E. Jones, of Santa Clarita Valley, Calif., discovered the two-mile-diameter minor planet in August 2004 from the small Francisco Observatory. Jones, who provides catalogue information for NASA on potentially dangerous asteroids, was making photographic measurements of another near-Earth asteroid when he spotted the minor planet in his photographs.

After six years of constant observation by professional observatories, Solar System object 2004PC27 was confirmed, and Jones was given the opportunity to name his discovery.

Jones chose the name, he says, because he admires Wiesel's humanitarian work, especially against genocide.

The Committee on Small Body Nomenclature of the International Astronomical Union officially approved the name "Eliewiesel" last May.

NICOLE ROJAS (CAS'12) ■

was to ensure that BU students continue to receive an education similar to his eye-opening experience. "That's important to me," he says, "and that's why I've done it."

ALLYSON GALLE (CAS'12)

College of Engineering ECE Chair Dies

Franco Cerrina remembered as warm, personable



VERNON DOUCETTE

FRANCO CERRINA, 62, chair of the College of Engineering's electrical and computer engineering department, died on June 28.

Cerrina was found dead in a Photonics Center laboratory, discovered by a staff member. The death has been ruled noncriminal by the Boston Police Department.

President Robert A. Brown says Cerrina will be sorely missed. "Although he had only been with us for less than two years," Brown says, "Franco had already distinguished himself by his intellect, leadership, and warmth to all who had the chance to know him."

Cerrina was a great catch for BU, says Bennett Goldberg, a College of Arts & Sciences professor of physics.

"He had great experience in many fields, great integrity, and he was incredibly personable," says Goldberg. He recalls often seeing Cerrina in the gym in the morning, where Cerrina would talk about the need to stay in shape.

Wayne Rennie, director of the electrical and computer engineering department, describes Cerrina, who rode his bike to work from Cambridge, as a "wonderful, fantastic, and gentle person, who always had time for you. He always had time for your problems."

Before coming to BU as electrical and computer engineering chair in August 2008, Cerrina taught for 24 years at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he was the Lynn H. Matthias Professor in Engineering and director of the Center for NanoTechnology, a research organization specializing in advanced semiconductor lithography and nanofabrication. At Wisconsin, his research focused on the application of techniques developed for semiconductor nanofabrication to biological problems.

Cerrina, who earned a PhD in physics at the University of Rome in 1974, held 16 patents and was a cofounder of five companies.

He had more than 300 reviewed publications and was a fellow of the American Physical Society, the Optical Society of America, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, SPIE, and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. LESLIE FRIDAY AND ART JAHNKE