



Editorial Note

Special Issue: A Tribute to Professor Nidal Hilal

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Professor Nidal Hilal is a Global Network Professor at New York University of Abu Dhabi and the Founding Director and Principal Investigator of NYUAD Water Research Center. He held professorships at the University of Nottingham and Swansea Universities in the United Kingdom. He is an Emeritus Professor of Engineering at Swansea University and the Founding Director of the Centre for Water Advanced Technologies and Environmental Research (CWATER).

Professor Nidal Hilal is a Chartered Engineer in the United Kingdom, a registered European Engineer, and an elected Fellow of the Institution of Chemical Engineers, the Learned Society of Wales, and the Royal Society of Chemistry. He received his BS degree in chemical engineering in 1981 followed by an MS degree in advanced chemical engineering from Swansea University in 1985. He received his PhD degree from Swansea University in 1988. In 2005 he was awarded a Senior Doctorate, Doctor of Science degree, from the University of Wales in recognition of an outstanding research contribution in the fields of Water Processing including Desalination and Membrane Science and Technology. He was also awarded the prestigious Kuwait Prize of Applied Science for 2005 and Menelaus Medal 2020, by the Learned Society of Wales, for excellence in engineering and technology.

Professor Nidal Hilal worked as a Lecturer in Chemical Engineering at the University of Nottingham from 2001 to 2003, when he was promoted to a Reader in Chemical and Process Engineering. He was promoted to Chair Professor in Chemical and Process Engineering in December 2004 at the School of Chemical, Environmental, and Mining Engineering until August 2010. He moved to Swansea University as the Chair Professor in Water Process Engineering and established the Centre for Water Advanced Technologies and Environmental Research (CWATER). He was also the Head of Chemical and Environmental Engineering at Swansea University.

He has supervised more than 50 students through their PhDs and many postdoctoral research fellows and authored over 600 publications including several patents and books. His research interests lie broadly in the identification of innovative and cost-effective solutions within the fields of

membrane technology, water treatment, and desalination. His internationally recognized research has led to the use of atomic force microscopy (AFM) in the development of new membranes with optimized properties. He is ranked by Google Scholar in the top 10 desalination leaders around the world.

Journal of Membrane Science and Research honored Prof. Nidal Hilal for his studies and contributions to membrane science and technology at the international level. With this special issue, we celebrate **Professor Nidal Hilal's 65th birthday**. On behalf of all the authors, we wish Professor Nidal Hilal good health, and many more years of scientific success.

Last, but not least, we would like to express our gratitude to the reviewers of the papers for their time to review the submitted manuscripts and for their valuable comments, Prof. Ali Kargari, Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Membrane Science and Research, and the officials, journal developers, and editorial assistants of for their great help during the organization of this special issue.