

Leslie Lamport (Microsoft)

Leslie Lamport was born on 7 February 1941 in New York City. He studied mathematics at M.I.T., from which he obtained a B.S. degree in 1960, and at Brandeis University, where he was awarded an M.A. degree in 1963 and a Ph.D. degree in 1972.

Dr. Lamport taught mathematics at Marlboro College from 1965 to 1969. He worked at Massachusetts Computer Associates from 1970 to 1977, at SRI International from 1977 to 1985, and at the Digital (later Compaq) Systems Research Center from 1985 to 2001. He is currently a principal researcher at Microsoft Research's Silicon Valley laboratory.

Dr. Lamport's research has been centered on concurrency and fault-tolerance. He is the inventor of several well-known concurrent and distributed algorithms, including early algorithms for tolerating "Byzantine" faults. He did seminal work on the theory of cache coherence and distributed systems. He has also developed methods for formally specifying and verifying concurrent systems.

Dr. Lamport received the Principles of Distributed Computing conference's influential paper award in 2000, the IEEE Piore Award in 2004, the Edsger W. Dijkstra Prize in Distributed Computing in 2005, and the IEEE von Neumann Medal in 2008. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and has received honorary degrees from the University of Rennes, Christian Albrechts University in Kiel, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Università della Svizzera Italiana in Lugano, and Université Henri Poincaré in Nancy.