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Professor Fossum was born in Phoenix, AZ. He received his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees in electrical engineering from the University of Arizona, Tucson. During his graduate program he was a NASA Predoctoral Trainee.

In 1971 he joined the technical staff of Sandia Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM, where he was engaged in various semiconductor device design and modelina activities. includina development of silicon solar cells. In 1978 he moved to the University of Florida, Gainesville, where he is now a Distinguished Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering. His general area of expertise is semiconductor device theory, modeling, and design; his current research concerns physical. process-based device modeling for IC simulation and technology CAD, with emphasis on nonclassical SOI and multi-gate CMOS. He is the author or coauthor of approximately 300 papers published in technical journals and conference proceedings, and he has directed the research of 35 Ph.D. students.

Professor Fossum is a member of the Honorary Board of Solid-State Editorial Advisory Electronics. He was an Associate Editor for the IEEE Transactions on Computer-Aided Design, and has been a Guest Editor for the IEEE Transactions on Electron Devices. He was elected a Fellow of the IEEE for "contributions to the theory and technology of silicon solar cells and transistors." He was a recipient of the Best Paper Award at the IEEE International SOI Conference, and has served on the Executive Committee of that conference. In 2004 he won the IEEE/EDS J. J. Ebers Award for "outstanding contributions to the advancement of SOI CMOS devices and circuits through modeling."