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Prof. Ilan Gravé was born in Israel and grew up in Israel and Italy. He graduated in Physics and Electrical Engineering at Tel Aviv University, and received a Ph.D. in Applied Physics from Caltech in Pasadena, California. He is married and is the proud father of two teenagers – a daughter in college and a son in high school.

Prof. Gravé has worked for a number of years in high tech over the world, leading advanced projects in the aerospace and communication industries in Israel and in Europe. He has performed research in a number of fields in Physics and Engineering, publishing experimental and theoretical works in superconductivity, nonlinear optics, semiconductor quantum devices, infrared detectors, semiconductor lasers, medical signal processing and more. He has been an invited speaker at a number of major conferences in the United States and Europe. He has taught in Israel and at the University of Pittsburgh before his current appointment at Elizabethtown College.

"Teaching, together with research, is the great passion of my life. I usually teach topics that represent a strong challenge for students at all levels: Such topics include Electromagnetism, Electronic Circuits, Quantum Mechanics, Semiconductor Devices and Optics. Students usually spend a lot of effort and time in reading, thinking, solving problems and proposing design solutions in these courses. Yet the rewards are gigantic! Learning and understanding the most important and advanced theories, the backbone of human scientific knowledge; mastering the latest tools in engineering design and technology; gaining proficiency in advanced mathematical methods... and more. And for us, the teachers, there are also many rewards: to see these young people, who just left their parents' home, start their big independent journey through life; explore their interests; push for their limits; find their professional path and their social place."

".... Who would have believed four years ago that this young student, sitting in the Freshman class, silent and maybe afraid of asking questions, would turn in such a thoughtful, complex and beautiful senior project? Who could have foreseen this professionalism, this self-assurance, this optimism, and this confidence?"

Yet the miracle keeps repeating itself year after year, and being a small part of that is for us, the teachers, the greatest reward...."