

Leonidas(Leo) K. Resvanis is Professor of Physics at the University of Athens and Director of the NESTOR Institute for Astroparticle Physics of the National Observatory of Athens.

He got his B.Sc. (1965) at the University of Manchester (UK) and his Ph.D. (1971) at the Johns Hopkins University (USA) on a spark chamber experiment at SLAC investigating the Properties of the Decay of the Long Lived Kaon.

From 1971 until 1976 he worked as a Research Associate and Assistant Professor at the University of Pennsylvania doing experiments at SPEAR/SLAC, measuring the transverse polarization of the beams in order to search for weak-electromagnetic interference, testing QED in collaboration with the R. Hofstadter group and studying the properties of the Psi, psi prime and tau decays.

He moved to his native Greece in 1976, when he was elected Professor of Physics and Director of the Physics Laboratory at the University of Athens. He then joined ISR/CERN experiment R-806 and 808 to study high transverse momentum production and discover Direct Photons. Concurrently he worked at P-West at Fermilab on direct photon and dimuon production from antiproton and pion beams (E537-E705). He was a member of the original team which designed the DELPHI experiment at LEP, working mainly with Tom Ypsilantis on the Barrel RICH. He also worked on two neutrino bubble chamber experiments, one in 1976 using the 7 foot hydrogen bubble chamber at BNL looking for charmed particles and the other in 1980 using BEBC at CERN (PS180) looking for neutrino oscillations. His close collaboration with John Learned over many years catalysed his prosetism to Astroparticle Physics. In the mid 80s he designed and worked on the Haleakala gamma ray Air Cherenkov experiment in Hawaii and in the early nineties he became the flag bearer of the Mediterranean deep sea neutrino telescope when he proposed NESTOR. In 1998 the Greek Government created the NESTOR Institute for Astroparticle Physics and appointed him director.