



## Media Relations

### News Releases

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#### **FAROUK EL-BAZ APPOINTED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE U.S. CIVILIAN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION**

(Boston) – Dr. Farouk El-Baz, Director of the Center for Remote Sensing and Research Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering of Boston University, was appointed to the Board of Directors of the U.S. Civilian Research and Development Foundation (CRDF) for a term ending December 31, 2013.

The CRDF is a nonprofit organization authorized by the U.S. Congress and established in 1995 by the National Science Foundation (NSF). In his letter to Dr. El-Baz, dated October 1, 2009, Arden L. Bement, Jr., Director of NSF, stated that the appointment was: “because of your many research and teaching accomplishments; your in-depth knowledge of the Middle East, North Africa, and the Gulf regions; and your commitment to international cooperation in science and engineering.”

The CRDF promotes international scientific and technical cooperation through grants, technical resources and training. Among its objectives are applications of science and technology to economic growth through international partnerships that foster innovation and entrepreneurship, as well as strengthening of university research and education in science and engineering.

Dr. El-Baz, a veteran of NASA’s Apollo program of lunar exploration, is a pioneer in applying space images in the fields of geology, geography and archaeology. He is particularly noted for research on desert landforms and the location of groundwater resources in arid lands. Under his direction, the Boston University Center for Remote Sensing was selected in 1997 by NASA as a “Center of Excellence in Remote Sensing.”

Founded in 1839, Boston University is an internationally recognized institution of higher education and research. With more than 30,000 students, it is the fourth largest independent university in the U.S. It has 17 colleges and schools and a number of multi-disciplinary centers and institutes, which are central to its research and teaching mission.