Zoltan Kunszt was born and grew up in Pápa. He obtained his MSc degree in physics at ELTE with honour in 1967. His diploma work was carried out under the supervision of Dr. Tibor Nagy on "Classification of negative parity baryon resonances". After graduation he started his career at the Department of Theoretical Physics at ELTE, and continued at the Department of Atomic Physics from 1971 where he became an assistant professor in 1977 and an associate professor in 1981. In the period of 1974-1975 he was a paid associate at the Theoretical Physics Departement at CERN, Geneva, Switzerland. Then he became a scientific advisor at the Central Research Institute of Physics (KFKI) in 1981 where he was employed until 1989. During this period, he was guest researcher at leading European institutions, such as Dubna in the Soviet Union, CERN and University of Bern in Switzerland, DESY in Germany, University of Oxford in Great Britain, University of Helsinki in Finland, and also at the Fermi National Laboratory in the US. In June 1989 he was offered a permanent senior research position at the Institute for Theoretical Physics at the Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule (ETH) Zürich, where he was promoted to professor of physics in 1991. Soon he became the head of the particle physics group at ITP ETH until his retirement in 2009. He was elected to external member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in 2022.