MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE FACULTY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS ARTHUR T. TIEDEMANN

Professor Emeritus Arthur T. Tiedemann died on October 24, 2004 at the age 78. He was born on August 14, 1926 in Oak Park, Illinois. He completed the Navy V-12 program with a B.S. in electrical engineering from the University of Illinois in 1946 and served on a mine-sweeper off the California coast. After leaving the Navy in 1949, he joined the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he was an instructor from 1949 to 1951 and received his M.S. there in 1951. He served as an engineer with the Civil Aeronautics Administration (now FAA) in Indianapolis from 1952 to 1954.

Art joined the Department of Electrical Engineering of the University of Wisconsin as an instructor in 1954. He received his Ph.D. from the UW in 1958 and became an assistant professor that year. He became an associate professor in 1963 and a professor in 1989. Art was an outstanding teacher and received the 1974-75 Polygon Teaching Award and the ECE Outstanding Instructor Award in 1988. He will be remembered as a wonderful but always demanding teacher by his students and as a warm and stimulating colleague and friend by those faculty and staff who served with him. Art preferred teaching the 7:45 a.m. introductory ECE courses, which further endeared him to his colleagues on the ECE faculty. In the early part of Art's career at the UW, he was interested in various aspects of lighting technology. He also served as an associate chairman of the ECE department for several years with responsibility for department's physical facilities, course scheduling and timetable production. As a result of Professor Tiedemann's efforts, his department pioneered in the use of computers for registering students for classes. He later assisted in the development of the early campus computer-based registration system.

Art was a volunteer textbook reader for the UW McBurney Center for several years receiving an award of appreciation. After his retirement Art continued his education at the UW, attending enough courses as a guest student to earn his "Bachelor of Guestology" degree. Art participated in several Elderhostel service programs, including paying for the privilege of helping Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry organize its collections, and assisting in the cleanup of the former U.S. Navy base on Midway Island in the Pacific.

One of the stories that Art told was that of his travel to Moscow in 1960 to present his research at the first Congress of the International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC). Art and the other congress participants from the U.S. found themselves in a charged atmosphere in Moscow as they were there at the same time that the wreckage of Gary Powers' U2 spy plane, shot down by the Russians over the Soviet Union, was being displayed.

Art was active in music all of his life including the Navy Band and the men's glee club in college. He sang in the chorus in several Madison Savoyards productions and was a founding member of the unofficial ECE faculty band at the UW.

Art's wife, Ruth an MD, often gave CPR classes for the ECE Department. She died in 1994. Art is survived by his children, JoAnn of Madison and Norman of Woodbury, Minnesota, and his half-brother, Cliff Tiedemann of Mount Prospect, Illinois.

Arthur Tiedemann was an outstanding teacher and electrical engineer. He had the respect of all who knew him.

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