

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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS JOHN P. KLUS

Professor John P. Klus was highly accomplished in all of his many endeavors and spent his life using that success to help advance the areas about which he was passionate. He was born June 13, 1935 in Armstrong Creek, Wisconsin, and died September 2, 2011, in Madison. He began his academic career at Michigan Technological University, earning his BS in 1957 and his MS in 1961, while also serving in-between his degree work in the U.S. Army as a research engineer. He continued his pursuit of education and research at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he earned his PhD in civil engineering in 1965.

Professor Klus began his professional career at UW-Engineering Extension (now the Department of Engineering Professional Development) as an assistant professor. Early in his career, he led initiatives to encourage the continuing professional development of technical personnel in the United States and eventually broadened that focus to an international level.

During his time at engineering professional development, Professor Klus went on to serve as the first elected department chair from 1968-1980, as well as to develop the Center for New Product Exploration. He received many national and international awards, including the Joseph Biedenbach Distinguished Service Award in 2001 from the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE); the Leonardo da Vinci Medal from the European Society of Engineering Education in 1987; and two Fulbright Research awards in 1966 and 1985.

In his quest to advance technical continuing education, Professor Klus, with Judy Jones, developed the First World Conference on Continuing Engineering Education (WCCEE) in 1979. In subsequent years, as the success of WCCEE grew with each year, Professor Klus co-founded the International Association of Continuing Engineering Education (IACEE) in 1989 and joined as member number two. He became the association's first president, serving for six years until 1995.

Professor Klus also worked extensively for the University of Finland, Helsinki, beginning with his first Fulbright award. He received an honorary doctorate from the Helsinki University of Technology in 1994 for his contributions to the fields of continuing education, technology transfer, and new product development. Through his work in Finland, he gained a close circle of personal and professional connections. Professor Klus continued to travel to Helsinki four times a year to visit these friends and colleagues, with whom he discussed and developed ideas and explored Finland's natural wonders.

Professor Klus is the author of numerous technical and educational publications. Though he officially retired from UW-Madison in 1995, he continued to work part-time for the Department of Engineering Professional Development and IACEE up to the time of his passing. His last project involved the development of assessment procedures to improve the quality of continuing education programs.

Among Professor Klus' many accomplishments were invitations to join the board of directors of several Madison-area businesses. He was well regarded for his ability to assess quickly opportunities and the best approach for seeking success.

In addition to his professional commitments, Professor Klus actively pursued his outside passions. He started a political group, "Who is John Klus?" to draw attention to the issue of campaign finance reform. He also explored the human brain, researching its plasticity and investigating new products and business applications in the field, with the hope of improving others' lives.

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Professor Klus had a lifelong passion for hunting and fishing in the upper Midwest and greatly enjoyed spending time with his close-knit group of family and friends.

Professor Klus lived his life fully, both personally and professionally, and embraced new projects and challenges with enthusiasm. He followed the personal belief that one should “always leave a place better than the way you found it.” He leaves behind his devoted family: wife Geri, four children and their spouses, six grandchildren, and three sisters.

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