

**Memorial Resolution of the Faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison  
on the Death of Professor Emeritus Hans Schneider**

Hans Schneider, James Joseph Sylvester professor emeritus at the University of Wisconsin--Madison, died on October 28, 2014 in Madison. The cause of his death was cancer of the esophagus. Born in Vienna, Austria on January 24, 1927, he lived there until the occupation of Austria by Nazi Germany in March 1938. The family fled into a precarious existence in Czechoslovakia in a city which later became part of Poland. In November 1938, his family managed to enter him in a Quaker school in Eerde, Netherlands. He was reunited with his parents in Edinburgh, Scotland in August 1939, three weeks before the outbreak of war in Europe.

In Edinburgh, Hans attended George Watson's Boys College (the equivalent of an American high school) followed by four years at Edinburgh University where he graduated M.A. with first class honors in 1948. Later he returned to Edinburgh University receiving a Ph.D. in mathematics in 1952. He was (assistant) Lecturer at Queens University in Belfast, Ireland from 1952 to 1959. In 1959 he emigrated to the USA in order to take up a position as Assistant Professor of Mathematics at the University of Wisconsin. Except for several visiting positions, Hans spent his entire career at Wisconsin serving as chair of the Department of Mathematics from 1966 to 1968. Later he was given the title of James Joseph Professor of Mathematics. He retired from that position in 1993, but remained an active mathematician until his death.

Hans was a giant in his field of linear algebra. His greatest love in mathematics was the Perron-Frobenius theory of nonnegative matrices, a beautiful theory with many applications including to the search engine Google. He wrote approximately 175 research papers, the last of which was published in 2014, the year of his death. He was eagerly sought after as a collaborator and had approximately eighty collaborators.

In 1972, Hans was appointed as editor-in-chief of "Linear Algebra and its Applications," a journal that at that time was struggling. His efforts resulted in that journal becoming very successful, giving new prestige to the field of linear algebra and promoting its applications. He remained as an editor-in-chief of that journal for 40 years.

In 1987, Hans with some colleagues established the international Matrix Group which, three years later, was incorporated as the International Linear Algebra Society (ILAS). He was the first president of ILAS from 1990 to 1996. Currently, ILAS has about 400 members from more than twenty countries and has two publications. This society organizes conferences with the 19th conference held in August, 2014 in Seoul, S. Korea. This conference was the first ILAS conference that he did not attend.

Hans is survived by his widow Miriam (nee Wieck), a professional violinist, and three children: Barbara Schneider, professor of communications at the University of Calgary, Canada; Peter Schneider, producer and director; and Michael Schneider, financial service manager. He is also survived by six grandchildren: David, Daniel, Hannah, Rebecca, Carson Rose, and Kurt.

Respectfully submitted by the Memorial Resolution Committee:  
Richard A. Brualdi