

**Memorial Resolution of the Faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison
on the Death of Professor Emeritus John P. (Jack) Matthews**

Jack Matthews died after a very short illness in his beloved Paris on September 3, 2014. The cause was Legionnaires' disease. His untimely and way too early death came as shock to all who knew him. He was only 72 – ready to turn 73 on October 17.

Jack was Professor of Operations and Information Management, and spent 27 years at the School of Business until he retired in 1998 (becoming Emeritus in 1999). He was born in 1941 in Chicago, Illinois. After earning an undergraduate degree in Physics, Mathematics and Chemistry from Eastern Illinois University in 1963, he volunteered to serve as an officer in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War. On May 7, 1965, his squadron landed the first combat ground troops in Vietnam in Da Nang harbor, and with that landing the ground war in Vietnam began. After one year and three landings, he returned to the States and was assigned to the Great Lakes Naval Training Center north of Chicago. Shortly afterward, he began graduate studies at Northwestern University. He received both Master's (1968) and Ph.D. (1971) degrees in Quantitative Analysis from the Department of Managerial Economics and Decision Sciences, and then joined the School of Business faculty in 1971 where he taught various courses in Operations Management. For several years he also offered seminars for industry, including one on manufacturing strategy at Northwestern University. He served as Chair of the Department of Quantitative Analysis (now Operations and Information Management) from 1987 through 1992 and also served the university as a Faculty Senator (1986-1993).

Jack published twenty academic articles in the area of operations management and quantitative analysis. The major outlets of his research include *Operations Research*, *Naval Research Logistics*, *Decision Sciences*, *The International Journal of Production Research*, *The Journal of Operations Management*, *The International Journal of Management Sciences*, *The Journal of the Operational Research Society*, and *Euromoney*, among others. He also wrote two book chapters and was a frequent contributor to the *Leasing and Financial Services Monitor*, *The World Leasing Yearbook*, *Equipment Leasing* and the *Leasing Digest*. He chaired three doctoral committees, and was a member of several others. He presented papers at INSEAD in France, at conferences in Turkey, Brussels, and Paris, as well as at several domestic sites.

In later years, Jack's interests focused on modeling intra- and inter-brand competition in multiple dealer settings in the automobile industry. He was called upon to render expert testimony in many cases involving disputes between General Motors, Ford, Chrysler, BMW, Jaguar, Honda, and the dealers of those products. Other areas included the petroleum industry, heavy truck industry, and motor sports. He truly loved and excelled in this line of work, and was admired and respected by his colleagues on the legal side. They reported that Jack was never caught off guard during depositions. His insight into the contentious issues which frame the development of dealer network and the issues which drive decisions in this arena became topics he covered in a business school course on Service Operations Management and invited lectures in related courses.

In January 1974, Jack took a year-long position with Boston University in Brussels, Belgium, where he taught quantitative analysis. Jack's involvement in international executive education started with this stint. He was approached by the Chairman of Citicorp Leasing to offer a one-week education program in New York on the topics of big ticket leasing - equipment costing

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\$500,000 or more. Later, Jack offered similar seminars in London for all of Citicorp Leasing's European country managers, as well as in Lisbon for the Portuguese leasing industry. Upon return to the States and the UW, Jack offered a long series of equipment leasing seminars through the School of Business. These continued through the mid-1980s.

One year after his return to Madison, Jack interviewed for a position of advisor to the president of Gabon, a small country on the west coast of Africa with close political and economic ties to France. The advisory staff of the president was in need of someone to evaluate attractiveness of several long term lease/investment proposals being made by Western firms for development of oil fields off the Gabonese coast. However, Jack's lack of fluency with the French language made it impossible to accept the position. At that point, he determined to learn the language and took the first of eight semesters of French at UW and in Paris. In 1984, together with Professor Gilles Bousquet of the UW French and Italian Department, Jack organized the first program in which UW-Madison students would be assigned work in an entirely French-speaking environment within a French firm. Jack and Gilles visited the students every year on site which may explain why the organizations became supportive of this pioneering program. It ran for ten years and placed around 50 students in internships all over France.

Jack leaves behind a wife, Sara, two sons (John and David), a daughter (Tessa), five grandchildren, and a brother. For the last 25 years or so, Jack and his family spent several weeks every summer in France. Based on those experiences Jack authored a book entitled "Paris at Its Best," containing his favorite places to visit in Paris. Jack was a wonderful colleague and a charming and witty lover of life who personified the term "joie de vivre." It was fitting that Jack would end his days in the city he loved so much.

Respectfully submitted by the Memorial Committee
James G. Morris
Urban Wemmerlöv (Chair)