
**Memorial Resolution of the Faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison
On the Death of Professor Emeritus William J. Feiereisen**

William (Bill) J. Feiereisen, Emeritus Professor of Mechanical Engineering, died May 9, 2015, in Madison, Wisconsin at the age of 94. He was born in West Bend, Wisconsin, on October 22, 1920, and attended the UW-Madison, receiving his BS in Mechanical Engineering in 1942 and his MS in Mechanical Engineering in 1947. He was appointed Instructor in Mechanical Engineering at the UW-Madison in 1942, and continued his career at the UW with promotion to Professor in 1968. During a leave of absence, he earned a PhD in Mechanical Engineering at Purdue University in 1970. After 52 years of teaching in Mechanical Engineering, he retired in 1994.

Bill loved laboratory instruction as he believed that students learn best when exposed to actual machinery. He was instrumental in the development of the thermoscience laboratory and created innovative experiments to clearly illustrate complicated fluid flow phenomena. He supplemented the experiments with self-directed videos that aided students in understanding what the experiments showed. He had high standards for laboratory performance, and students left his courses with an appreciation of the rigor required in experimental studies.

In addition to teaching the laboratory course, his class-room instruction covered the thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, and heat transfer courses, which are essential to the thermal aspects of mechanical engineering. Students acknowledged his enthusiasm and skill, and he received many teaching awards from the college's student groups. His dedication to students was also shown through his 17 years of advising the student chapter of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) professional society.

Bill was also dedicated to helping educate foreign students in their own country. Through his participation in a number of foreign aid programs sponsored by the United States Aid for Independent Development program, he was able to assist in the construction of teaching laboratories in universities in India and Indonesia.

Throughout his career, Bill earned a reputation as an excellent laboratory instructor with high standards. He contributed to the solid experimental experiences of generations of mechanical engineering students. He will be missed by all of us who knew him and especially by the family he loved so much, his daughter Mary, his four sons, Bill Jr., Tom, Bob, and John, who all received BS degrees from the Mechanical Engineering Department, and their families.