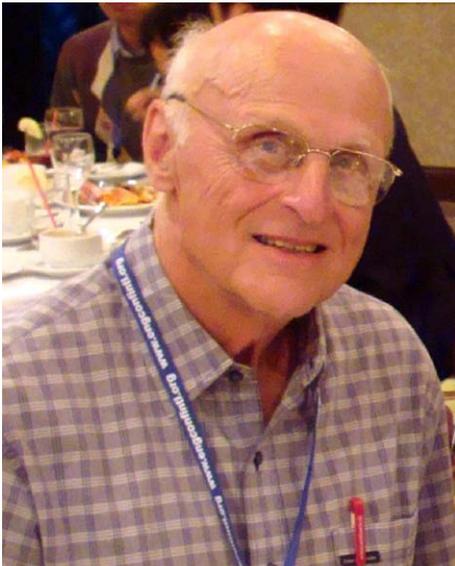


Dedication: Professor Frank W. Schmidt



**Frank at the ECI Conference
'Heat Transfer & Fluid Flow in Microscale'
Whistler, Canada, September 2008**

This special issue of the IJHFF is dedicated to our friend and colleague Frank W. Schmidt to mark both his 80th Anniversary on March 31st, 2008 and to celebrate his contributions as an editor to the IJHFF for more than a quarter century.

Frank was awarded his bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Wisconsin in 1950 before moving to the Pennsylvania State University where he obtained his master's degree. After two years working as a design engineer and two years' military service, he re-joined the University of Wisconsin as an instructor to obtain his doctorate and stayed on as an assistant professor. In 1962, however, he was hired by the Pennsylvania State University and that was to remain his university base for the remainder of his career.

His research contributions have covered a wide range of subjects in heat transfer ranging from applications such as heat-exchanger design, thermal energy storage, refrigeration and process engineering for foodstuffs through to more fundamental studies on numerical strategies for convective heat transfer and the study of natural convection, both numerically and by experiment.

Frank sees the sabbatical year that he spent at Imperial College, London in 1965–1966 working in Brian Spalding's group as one of the main markers in his professional life. He made many friends in that period that have remained close to him ever since. Although turbulent flow research had not been his personal research emphasis, when he later learned that two of his Imperial College colleagues wanted to hold a research conference on that theme he immediately suggested that it should be held at Penn State. He handled all the administrative and fund-raising activities for the event which was so successful that he was persuaded to become the organizing secretary for ten further biennial Turbulent Shear Flows symposia. Indeed, when he decided in 1997 that he needed to step down from that position in order to create space for other professional commitments, the remainder of the organizing committee decided that they too should resign and the conference series cease (though re-born under different leadership in the current Turbulence & Shear Flow Phenomena series).

His invitation to become an editor-in-chief of the IJHFF also sprang from his Imperial College connections. In 1983 the then editors-in-chief and publishers decided that if the journal was to acquire a truly international standing it needed to have a US editor. Bernard Martin, one of the editors-in-chief, had got to know Frank during his sabbatical leave and the latter's complementary research interests allied to the extensive reputation Frank had by then acquired as being an exceptionally 'safe pair of hands' made him an obvious choice. During his tenure the Journal grew considerably in stature, progressed from quarterly to bi-monthly publication and began the practice of publishing special issues whose contents were drawn from those presented at leading international conferences. In 2006 he chose to step down from his position as editor-in-chief but was persuaded to remain as editor-at-large in which role he has organized several special issues, including the present one.



Frank with the President of the Pennsylvania State University on the occasion of the 1st Turbulent Shear Flows Symposium, May 1977

While the IJHFF has been fortunate to benefit from Frank's professional guidance, it was by no means the only organization to which he contributed. Throughout the Seventies he worked in

many roles on behalf of the ASME's Heat Transfer Division, culminating in his serving as chairman of the Division in 1978–1979. In the 1980's his ASME roles widened with a special area of responsibility being the huge Winter Annual Meeting. From 1986 until 2007 he was co-editor of the Heat Exchanger Design Handbook while from 1987 he has served in various roles for the Engineering Foundation and its successor, the Engineering Conferences International, being chosen as president of the latter's board of directors in 2003. Indeed, through this latter institution he has helped stimulate research in many countries in Asia, Africa and South America.

No summary of Frank's contributions would be complete without mention of his wife and companion for more than fifty years, Mary (née Cherney). They first met soon after Frank started his master's programme at Penn State where Mary was an undergraduate, became engaged in the summer of 1952 and tied the knot two years later. Throughout Frank's career Mary has provided invaluable support to his professional activities. They had four children who have each gone on to successful careers and Frank and Mary are now enjoying the blessing of helping their nine grandchildren on their journeys through childhood and adolescence to adulthood. We wish them many more happy years together, sharing their joy of living and good humour with their countless friends around the world!

Tom Gatski
Nobuhide Kasagi
Brian Launder
Editors-in-Chief

Available online 14 February 2009