MEMORIAL RESOLUTION
for
Professor Edmund Feller

The members of the Mathematical Sciences Department and the entire
UWM community were shocked at the news of the fatal heart attack of
Professor Edmund H. Feller on June 17, 1983. The death occurred only
three days before the start of the Summer Session, in which Professor
Feller was scheduled to teach one of a variety of algebra courses that
were his main interest.

Within algebra Professor Feller's special field of interest was
ring theory. He had published over 30 scholarly articles making sig-
nificant contributions to the study of Noetherian rings. His recently
published work on semicritical modules has provided the mathematical
community with a rich source of material for the consideration of this
class of rings. The quality of his work was recognized in many years
of external funding from organizations such as the National Science
Foundation. His commitment to research was exhibited not only in the
numbers of publications, but in the continuity of his publication record
and his encouragement of other members of the department. The ability
to concentrate intensely on a given subject to the exclusion of every-
thing else enabled him to become one of the leading researchers in his
special field. It also enabled him to compete successfully in a number
of sports, in which he was outstanding.

Professor Feller received his B. S. degree from Loras College in
Dubuque, Iowa, and his M. S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of
Wisconsin-Madison. Before coming to Milwaukee he taught at Loras
College and Iowa State College. He then began his tenure at the
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee as an Assistant Professor in 1955,
was promoted to Associate Professor in 1960 and to Professor in 1965.
Professor Feller was active in departmental as well as university matters, serving on a variety of committees. He was chairman of the Department of Mathematical Sciences for several years, including a particularly turbulent period in the department. His calm leadership and strong sense of fairness helped immensely at that time. However, his main interest continued to be mathematical research and scholarship.

From 1966 through 1977, Professor Feller produced eight Ph.D. algebra students. It is fair to say that the eleven other Ph.D. algebra students generated by the Mathematical Sciences Department during the period, 1969-1980, were attributable in large part to Professor Feller's development of the graduate algebra program and his firm hand in guiding that program. At the time of his death, two Ph.D. students were nearing completion of their degrees under his guidance.

Professor Feller possessed strong opinions about departmental and university operations and was not hesitant about making them known. Department chairmen, deans, and even chancellors were the recipients of his firmly worded letters. At times, this made him appear somewhat brusque. However, the stands for which Professor Feller fought were rarely for personal benefit but rather were directed in behalf of his colleagues and students, the Mathematical Sciences Department, and UWM in general.

Associate Professor James Arnold
Associate Professor Ann Boyle
Associate Professor Thomas O'Bryan
Professor Abraham Spitzbart, Chair