

Professor Emeritus of Computer Sciences and Linguistics Sheldon Klein passed away in Madison on July 22, 2005, at the age of 70.

Professor Klein was born in Chicago and grew up in Los Angeles. He attended the University of California at Berkeley where he received his B.A. in anthropology in 1956 and his Ph.D. in linguistics in 1963. While in California, he did fieldwork with the Kawaiisu Indians as part of the University of California Survey of California Indian Languages near Bakersfield, CA. In 1964 he joined the Carnegie-Mellon University as an Assistant Professor of Linguistics and Computer Sciences. He joined the University of Wisconsin at Madison in 1966, as an Associate Professor of Computer Sciences and Linguistics and was promoted to a Full Professor in 1973. He served as Linguistics Department chair from 1974 to 1976. Professor Klein retired on December 30, 2002, but continued to teach on a voluntary basis until the end of the Spring Semester of 2005.

Professor Klein's research covered diverse topics, as reflected in the titles of his articles: "Computers, Dependency and Stratificational Grammar", "Zen Buddhism and General Semantics", "The Analogical Foundations of Creativity in Language, Culture and the Arts" and "The Invention of Computationally Plausible Knowledge Systems in the Upper Paleolithic". Professor Klein research was based on data from many languages including Sanskrit, Greek, Old Norse, Russian, Hungarian, Indonesian and Malay.

Professor Klein traveled extensively in pursuit of his research. In fall 1973, he went to Moscow as a Senior Scholar at the Soviet Ministry of Higher Education (IREX), for the Machine Translation Laboratory of the Institute of Foreign Languages. In 1976-1977, he was invited to become a Visiting Director of Studies at l'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris, where he worked with the eminent structural anthropologist, Claude Levi-Strauss. In 1977-78, he went to the University of Bielefeld, Germany as a Visiting Professor of Linguistics. In 1988, he was invited to become a Visiting Fellow at Clare Hall and the Department of Archeology at the University of Cambridge in England, and has been a life member of Clare Hall since 1988. He was also a Fellow of the American Anthropological Association and the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland.

Professor Klein leaves a legacy of over 92 research papers published in a variety of professional journals.

The faculty of the University of Wisconsin at Madison offers its sincere condolences to Mrs. Carol Klein and their daughter Jahna Antoniadis and her family.