The special committee of the General Faculty to prepare a memorial resolution for Professor Emeritus Hans W. Baade, School of Law, has filed with the secretary of the General Faculty the following report.

Alan W. Friedman, Secretary
General Faculty and Faculty Council
The University of Texas at Austin
Arthur J. Thaman and Wilhelmina Doré Thaman Professor of English and Comparative Literature

IN MEMORIAM
HANS W. BAADE

Hans W. Baade, a longtime member of The University of Texas School of Law faculty and emeritus holder of the Hugh Lamar Stone Chair in Civil Law, died in Austin on September 12, 2016 at the age of eighty-six. Hans, who joined the Law School faculty in 1971, retired from full-time service in 2001 but continued on modified service until 2015, when he stepped down after forty-four years of exceptional teaching and scholarship. Even then, Hans continued to maintain his office at the Law School and was actively engaged in research until shortly before his death.

Hans was born in Berlin in 1929. His father was a Social Democrat who lost his seat in the Reichstag when he voted against Hitler’s Enabling Act in 1933. Hans’s mother lost her position as a political journalist because of her Jewish background. Their opposition to the Nazi regime placed the family in a dangerous position, so Hans and his parents emigrated to Turkey in 1934. Hans grew up in Ankara and Istanbul, and moved to New York City after World War II. Hans received a B.S. degree in political science from Syracuse University in 1947 and LL.B. and LL.M. degrees from Duke University in 1955. After several years of work and study at The Hague Academy of International Law and the Kiel Institute of International Law, Hans joined the faculty of the Duke University School of Law in 1960 and was remained there until 1970. After a stint at the University of Toronto, Hans accepted an invitation to join the faculty at The University of Texas.

During his graduate studies in Europe, Hans met and married Dr. Anne Adams Baade, a citizen of Scotland, who later became a specialist in Renaissance German and Latin philology. Hans developed an extraordinary fondness for Scotland, and on appropriate occasions he would don his tartan kilt. Hans and Anne spent summers at their home in Edinburgh, where Hans had a long and fruitful association with the University of Edinburgh. The couple, who would have celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary in March 2017, had two sons (James, a rabbi in London, and Hans, a research scientist at the J. J. Pickle Research Center) and two grandchildren (Alan and Miles).

When Hans came to Texas in 1971, he was already on his way to establishing himself as a leading international scholar of comparative law. In the course of his career, Hans wrote or co-authored nine books and over 100 articles. For many years, he was the co-editor of the leading law school casebook on Comparative Law, whose 7th edition was published in 2009. In the classroom, Hans taught courses on public international law, conflict of laws, comparative law, and international business law.

Hans was well liked by his students, who were impressed by his extraordinary intellectual depth as well as his droll sense of humor. In the early 1980s, his students banded together to form the Hans Baade Society, whose meetings were held on appropriate occasions at Scholz Garten on San Jacinto Street. The Society had a logo and shield, with such enduring symbols as “E Pluribus Hans,” and “In Hans We Trust.” A Society line, although written by a student, well reflects Hans’s wry sense of humor: “Employees must wash Hans before returning to work.”
Hans’s scholarly interests included the history of Latin American law and what he called “Non-American American Legal History”—the legal history of the southwest and Louisiana before they came under United States rule. In his modified service days, Hans taught comparative law and developed a seminar on international art law whose subject matter was based on international art theft cases in which Hans was either a consulting attorney or an expert witness. Often called upon to participate in litigation that benefited from his expertise, he played leading roles in litigation involving Mexican law and in historic land title and water law cases in New Mexico, Texas, and Louisiana.

In the course of his career, Hans developed a deep and affectionate commitment to the state of Texas and the City of Austin—and in particular to The University of Texas. Upon stepping down from modified service, Hans sent the following message to his colleagues on the law faculty:

In forty-five years’ teaching and research, The University has become my home, and fortunately, the powers that be have decided to let me keep my office. I have two research projects, both of them well advanced, but other than that, I plan to limit myself to following the literature in two or three of my areas and languages of special interest. I must say that for the pursuits of those interests, there can be no better place than The University of Texas. Where else can you study the reception of both major legal systems in loco? Where else is that subject of immediate interest for the adjudication of historic titles? Where else do you find one flagship university dominating a populous state that used to be an independent country, with major law firms doing their own international work and needing scholarly assistance from time to time? Where else, finally, are the books of a nationally leading library regularly found on the shelf, for reasons better left unexplored?

In turn, its students and faculty, and many citizens of Texas, have had good reason to appreciate the life and work of Hans W. Baade.

This memorial resolution was prepared by a special committee consisting of Professors Stanley M. Johanson (Chair), David A. Anderson, and Lino A. Graglia.

Distributed to the Dean of the School of Law on July 13, 2017, and posted under “Memorial Resolutions” at https://wikis.utexas.edu/display/facultycouncil/Wiki+Home.