William F. Schelter, professor of mathematics, died on July 30, 2001. He was 54.

Professor Schelter was native to Canada and obtained his Ph.D. from McGill University in 1972. His training was in computational algebra and its applications, and he was one of the pioneers of non-commutative algebraic geometry. He also worked on symbolic computational systems, compilers, and algorithms.

Dr. Schelter joined the mathematics faculty at The University of Texas in 1979. His distinguished mathematical career included visiting and research appointments at the University of Leeds, England, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute in California.

While at the University, Professor Schelter helped implement the computer system in the Department of Mathematics. He was an expert computer programmer who worked hard to implement computing into the academic world. Additionally, he maintained a variant of Macsyma, an open source computer algebra system that paved the road for such widely used programs as Maple and Mathematica.

Professor Schelter was in Russia at the time of his death with his wife, Olga, whom he had recently married. He is survived by his son, John Schelter, daughter, Karen Lewis and husband Mike, and a grandson Joshua Lewis.

Sue Alexander Greninger, Secretary
Office of the General Faculty

Biographical sketch prepared by Jennifer Morgan and posted on the Faculty Council Web site on August 15, 2005. Additional information can be found in the Office of the General Faculty, WMB 2.102, F9500.