

University of Houston Department of Mathematics

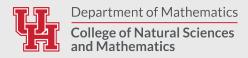
Celebrating the Life of Professor Ronald H.W. Hoppe



Friday, May 5th, 2023

University of Houston

Room 232 (PGH) Philip Guthrie Hoffman Hall



Professor Ronald H.W. Hoppe (1951-2023)

Born on April 10, 1951, in Nordhorn, Germany, Ronald pursued a life dedicated to mathematics. He began his academic journey at the Technische Universität Berlin, earning a diploma in mathematics with a secondary subject in physics in 1975. In 1979, he completed his doctoral thesis, and in 1986, obtained his habilitation, the highest academic qualification in Europe.

Ronald's illustrious career included academic positions at various institutions across the globe, including the University of Linköping in Sweden and the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences in New York. He was appointed to the C3-Professorship at the Mathematical Institute of TU Munich in 1990 and later the C4-Professorship at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at the University of Augsburg. Famed for his work in numerical partial differential equations and optimization, Ronald's research focused on multigrid methods, adaptive finite element methods, and optimal control problems. His work had real-life applications, such as microfluidic biochips and electrorheological fluids.

Ronald's remarkable career had a significant impact on the growth and development of applied and computational mathematics worldwide. He authored several books and over 200 scientific articles and advised over 20 Ph.D. students and numerous postdoctoral fellows. His former Ph.D. students have gone on to advise nearly 60 doctoral candidates. He also served on several editorial boards and had an impressive international network of friends and colleagues due to his natural scientific ability, patience, willingness to listen, affability, and love for conversation.

Ronald joined the UH Department of Mathematics in 2002 as a tenured professor and continued to make significant contributions to his field until his passing. While at UH, he taught many graduate-level courses, including Optimization Theory, Finite Element Methods, Numerical Differential Equations, Numerical Analysis, and Optimization and Variational Methods.

Ronald will be remembered as a brilliant mathematician, an exceptional teacher, a supportive colleague, and a dear friend.

Event Schedule:

- 8:00 AM-9:00 AM: Gathering & Breakfast (PGH 232)
- 9:00 AM—10:30 AM: Joint Augsburg-Houston Event with featured speakers (PGH 232 or via Zoom)
 - Dr. William Fitzgibbon, Professor of Mathematics, University of Houston
 - Dr. Susanne Brenner, Boyd Professor, Louisiana State University
 - Dr. Harbir Antil '09, Professor of Mathematics, George Mason University
 - Dr. Natasha Sharma '11, Associate Professor of Mathematics, University of Texas at El Paso
- 10:30 AM—11:30 AM: Local Memorial (PGH 232 or via Zoom)