



## Dr. Kjell Samuelson (1932-2018)

Dr. Kjell Samuelson (1932-2018) recently passed away in Stockholm, Sweden on 4 February 2018. The recipient of both an MD (Karolinska Institute, 1965) and a PhD (Royal Institute of Technology, 1978).

Dr. Samuelson was a pioneering systems scientist, educator, and consultant for more than half a century. After establishing the world's first degree-granting systems program in 1965 (a joint doctorate in Informatics and Systems Science between Stockholm University and the Royal Institute of Technology, which Kjell led for more than 30 years), he held visiting professorships in systems, cybernetics, informatics, and telecommunications at 10 leading universities in the United States. Dr. Samuelson was active as an officer and board member with a variety of scientific and professional organizations in the systems fields during his career.

Highlights include service as President (1975) and Board Chair (1976-1977) of the Society for General Systems Research (known as the International Society for the Systems Sciences since 1988); and as an editor or member of the editorial boards for 12 scientific journals, including *Systems Research and Behavioral Science*. Working with James G. Miller in the late 1970s, he also helped develop and secure approval of the federal HEGIS Code for Systems Science. The author of a dozen books and more than 100 articles and technical reports, primarily in English, Kjell remained active well into retirement – including a year-long appointment as Distinguished Visiting Professor with the Global Studies Program and the SJSU Salzburg Program at San José State University (2011-2012), where he worked closely with me on educating students about systemic approaches to global citizenship.

\*\*\*\*\*

William J. Reckmeyer, PhD  
Professor Emeritus San José State University  
February 24, 2018