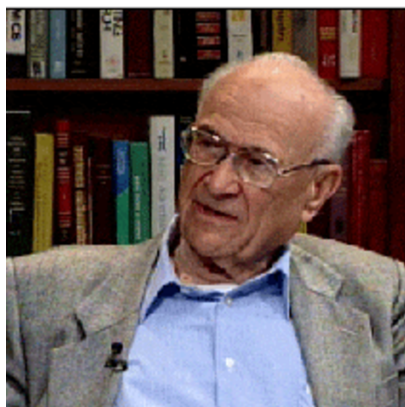


## Professor Harold A. Scheraga



With deep regret we announce that Professor Harold A. Scheraga, member of the International Advisory Committee of Task Quarterly, passed away on August 1, 2020 in Ithaca, N.Y., at age 98. Among many other honors, Professor Scheraga received a H.C. doctorate from the University of Gdańsk in 2005.

Professor Scheraga was a world-famous biophysicist and one of the very pioneers of the application of theoretical and computational methods in the research of biological macromolecules and biomolecular processes.

He was a strong advocate of applying massively parallel computing in this area. His greatest scientific achievements concerned the mechanisms of protein folding but he also made key contributions to related areas of science, especially the application of global optimization methods to predict the structures of molecules, molecular clusters, and crystals.

Professor Harold A. Scheraga was born in 1921 in Brooklyn, N.Y. He received the B.S. degree in 1941 at the City College of New York and the Ph.D. degree in 1946 at the Duke University, where one of his supervisors was Professor Fritz London. He did his postdoc at the Harvard Medical School under the mentorship of Professor John Edsall. After completing the postdoc he moved to Cornell University (Ithaca, N.Y.), where he remained until the end of his career, being eventually promoted to tenured professor.

Professor Harold A. Scheraga authored more than 1000 original and numerous review papers, several of which were recognized as classics in the field. His papers were cited more than 60,000 times. He was one of the few American chemists with the H-index exceeding 100. He was nominated for the Nobel Prize several times. Professor Scheraga visited Poland for the first time in 1989. At that time he visited the Technical University of Gdańsk. He was a long-time collaborator and friend of the Faculty of Chemistry at the University of Gdańsk and also of TASK.

He always valued Polish scientists, considering them as best collaborators. Thanks to this collaboration, at the beginning of the century, TASK decided to switch from mainframe to cluster computing, becoming one of the cluster computing leaders not only in Poland but also worldwide.

Professor Scheraga trained several hundred scientists who later became professors in the U.S., Poland, South Korea, Japan, India, Argentina, Hungary, and other countries. He was always open and eager to learn other cultures and had a rare ability to attract people, which resulted in many cases of long-term scientific collaboration.

More about his life and works can be found at <http://scheraga.chem.cornell.edu/> and Wikipedia websites.

The Editorial Board