Károly Bezdek *was born May 28, 1955, in Hungary, and early, along with his brother András, showed an interest and talent for Mathematics and Physics. Indeed Károly scored in the top level in several Mathematics and Physics competitions, including winning first prize in the prestigious 1972/73 KöMaL (Hungarian Math Journal for Secondary School Students) contest. He went on to be an undergraduate at Eötvös University in Budapest, then a graduate student in the Department of Geometry under the direction of Dr. Károly Böröczky, becoming a Full Professor in 1998 and Chairman of the Department from October 1999 until June 2003. In July 2003, he received a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair at the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Calgary in Alberta, Canada.*

Károly's mathematical interests range from Discrete Geometry including packings and coverings, Convex Geometry including polytopes and lattices, Rigidity of Discrete Structures, and Hyperbolic Geometry. His work has a pleasing visual and tangible aspect as well as great mathematical depth and power. Since 1985 Károly has visited me often at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, and we have had a long and enjoyable collaboration on a number of joint papers. One of the most enjoyable results we had together was a solution to a conjecture about areas of unions of disks in the plane posed by Kneser and Poulsen in 1955.

Robert Connelly