MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE FACULTY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS ALBERT D. HAMANN

The geographical distance from Medford, Wisconsin, where Albert Hamann was born in 1922, to Madison is 200-or-so miles. The educational distance that Professor of Governmental Affairs Albert D. Hamann covered during his career was relatively much greater. He initiated a program of continuing education--Administration and Operation of Police Departments--that had significant positive impacts upon the quality of policing in Wisconsin counties and municipalities. The courses he taught and organized, which were the first of their kind in the State of Wisconsin, helped significantly to improve management of local policing units. As their utility was demonstrated by graduates, the courses increased considerably in scope of content and in enrollments. They were recognized nationally. The program, which was virtually unknown when Al began his work, helped to prepare the way for the increased emphasis on academic study that now is an accepted part of preparation for a career in law enforcement and law enforcement administration. The Department of Justice still provides financial support to offerings of the type that Al initiated. Through Professor Hamann's work, the university responded to an educational need and offered its state assistance in a vital field of public service.

Al came to this work from, literally, the firing line. From 1950 to 1952 he was a counselor in the Michigan Department of Corrections. He then joined the University of Wisconsin-Madison police force as director and during that time helped establish the Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory. In 1964 Al was appointed assistant professor in the UW Department of Governmental Affairs.

He had an extensive military career, enlisting as a private in the Army in 1940 and retiring as a colonel from the Army Reserve in 1980. He obviously was successful there, too.

Al received his undergraduate degree from Michigan State University and his master's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He received his master's degree in1963 while he was security director for the university.

He was a strong proponent of the active life and maintained a vigorous life style. As a runner in the early days of running's rising popularity, he encouraged several colleagues into more active lifestyles, probably improving their survival.

He retired from UW in 1989. He died October 11, 1998 in Grand Rapids, Michigan at the age of 76. He is survived by his wife, Joan, 4 children, their spouses and a number of grandchildren.

Al gave long and varied service to the university and to the state and is remembered fondly by his former colleagues.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE Joe Corry Ed Schten, Chair