

**MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE FACULTY OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS PAUL R. WOLF**

Paul R. Wolf passed away at his home in Middleton, Wisconsin on March 6, 2002 at the age of 67. Paul was an emeritus professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. With his passing, the university community has lost a dedicated and esteemed colleague and friend.

Paul was born in Mazomanie in 1934. He graduated from Mazomanie High School and served in the U.S. Army in Japan for two years. Later, he attended UW-Platteville and UW-Madison, graduating with a degree in civil engineering in 1960. Paul began his career as a highway engineer for the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, then joined UW-Madison as an instructor in 1963, and completed his M.S. (1965) and Ph.D. (1967) degrees in the area of surveying and analytical photogrammetry. In 1967, he joined the civil engineering faculty at the University of California-Berkeley. In 1970, he returned to continue his teaching and research career at his alma mater. He was known as an extremely gifted teacher and mentor, and enjoyed a wonderful relationship with his students; not only as “teacher-to-student,” but as “friend-to-friend.” He helped to educate hundreds of students. Virtually all of his approximately 50 graduate students now hold distinguished positions in education, government, and business throughout the world. He had graduate students from at least eight different countries on four continents.

Paul’s global impact on education in the broad fields of surveying, mapping, and photogrammetry was also accomplished through his authorship of three standard-setting textbooks on these subjects:

Elements of Photogrammetry (published by McGraw Hill) – the touchstone text on the subject – translated into several foreign languages, now in the third edition and co-authored with Bon Dewitt, one of Paul’s graduate students, now on the faculty at the University of Florida.

Elementary Surveying (published by Prentice Hall) – translated into Spanish and published in Mexico – also published in Sydney for distribution in Australia and Southeast Asia, now in its tenth edition and co-authored with Charles Ghilani, another of Paul’s graduate students, now on the faculty at Penn State University.

Adjustment Computations (published by John Wiley) – also co-authored with Charles Ghilani.

From 1979 until his retirement in 1993, Professor Wolf led the Surveying, Photogrammetry, and Remote Sensing Program within the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Perhaps Paul’s greatest legacy is the stream of students coming out of this program who went on to become educators around the world. Graduates of the program now help populate the faculties of East Tennessee State University, the University of Florida, Fresno State University, Idaho State University, the University of Maine, Penn State University, Purdue University, the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse, Southern Illinois University, the University of Washington, the University of Western Australia, National Chung Hsing University in Taiwan, the University of Lagos in Nigeria, Seoul National University and Inha University in Korea, and the University of Technology – Malaysia. This accomplishment was recognized by his peers, when in 1993, Paul was presented with a one-of-kind special award. It came from the North American Surveying and Mapping Teachers’ Conference and was actually an award to the educational program that Paul led at UW-Madison – an award that recognized the excellence of the program and the long line of students from the program who had gone on to be educators. There is now a second generation of Paul’s students, that is, students of Paul’s students who have, in turn, gone on to be educators.

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Professor Wolf received numerous other awards from scientific and professional organizations. Among the most noteworthy are the Talbert Abrams National Award from the American Society of Photogrammetry in 1971 for scientific developments in the field of photogrammetry, speaking to his preeminence in research; the Earle J. Fennell Award from the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping in 1979 for outstanding contributions in surveying education; the Alumni Teaching Quality Award from the College of Engineering at UW-Madison in 1992; an Honorary Award for Educational Contributions from the Wisconsin Society of Land Surveyors in 1994; the Surveying and Mapping Award from the American Society of Civil Engineers in 1995; and five Presidential Citations from the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, spanning 17 years from 1972 through 1988, for contributions to the profession of photogrammetry.

Professor Wolf was invited to give lectures on his research in Canada, Australia, South America, and the Far East. He published more than 120 research papers.

Professor Wolf was a fellow member of both the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing and the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping. He was a life member of the American Society of Civil Engineers. In addition, he was an active member of the Society of Automotive Engineers, the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (attending all ISPRS international congresses from 1972 until 2000), and the Wisconsin Society of Land Surveyors. Paul was registered both as a professional engineer and a land surveyor in the State of Wisconsin. He was a certified photogrammetrist.

In retirement, Professor Wolf continued his writings, with new editions of all three of his textbooks coming forth in the past five years. He also devoted time to consulting work and became known nationwide as an expert in forensic photogrammetry. Paul loved his family and the time he spent with them, especially the times they could retreat to the Wolf cabin on Great Bass Lake near Minocqua and enjoy the peace and solitude of northern Wisconsin.

Last year, Paul was recognized in a manner that ensures the longevity of his renown, with the initiation of the Paul R. Wolf Professorship at UW-Madison, which will be an endowed faculty position that will require a giant in the field to be worthy of its name.

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