

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

**ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS M. LESLIE HOLT**

M. Leslie Holt, emeritus professor of chemistry, was born in Ellsworth, Iowa on June 4, 1904, and died on January 11, 2001.

Professor Holt attended St. Olaf College and earned a B.S. degree at that institution in June 1926. The following fall he entered the graduate program in chemistry at the UW-Madison. Here, he studied under the direction of Professor Louis Kahlenberg and received his Ph.D. in June 1930. During graduate study, he held appointments first as lecture assistant and then as teaching assistant in the department and through these experiences developed a strong interest in teaching that would remain with him throughout his career.

In September 1930, Professor Holt was appointed as an instructor in the chemistry department, beginning a faculty career that spanned 42 years. During his career, he advanced to the rank of professor. He also served as the associate chair in the department for the last 15 years of his career. As a UW faculty member he served on a number of committees including the Committee for Occupational Deferments and the Athletic Board.

In June 1950, Professor Holt was invited to join a group of United States professors to teach in Europe. He was appointed to the chemistry staff of the American Army University in Biarritz, France where he taught service personnel for six months. Later, he was a visiting senior scientist at Argonne National Labs.

Professor Holt's field of research was inorganic electrochemistry, with a special interest in the less common metals. He was a member of the Electrochemical Society and published much of his research results in the journal of that organization. He was also a member of the American Chemical Society. Professor Holt taught a course in advanced inorganic chemistry to seniors and graduate students, but his primary teaching responsibility was, for most of his career, the teaching of general chemistry to engineering students. When he retired in June 1972, it was estimated that he had taught over 25,000 general chemistry students.

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