

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

**ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS ROGER F. MILLER (1928-2002)**

Professor Emeritus Roger F. Miller received his Ph.D. in economics from the University of California at Berkeley in June of 1958. He was recognized with honors for the baccalaureate in economics at Princeton in 1949 and completed an MBA at the University of Pennsylvania in Industrial Relations in 1951.

Roger joined the University of Wisconsin faculty in the economics department in June, 1958. He was part of a cohort that energized statistical thinking and quantitative modeling of the economy on the campus and in the economics profession. Guy Orcutt, who also arrived in 1958, established the Social Systems Research Institute at the university and chose Roger to be his close associate in that organization. The Social Systems Research Institute sought to develop models that could be used to simulate outcomes of institutional change, such as tax reforms or social insurance. Roger designed a continuing sample of Wisconsin tax returns for one of the institute's research projects. The sample gleaned histories of the income experience of individuals in this state that pioneered new scientific methodology. Ultimately, he and his co-workers and students generated scientific insight into income variability, portfolio management, and incentives created by taxation to alter portfolios and use personal deductions. He enjoyed collaborative research and did his best scholarship when he tackled problems that were too large for a solo researcher.

Roger served as executive director to the Social Systems Research Institute, which included more than fifty affiliate faculty members in the early 1960's, and which was instrumental in financing construction of the north wing of the Social Science Building for research activity. Roger's careful tallies of outlays on research helped many investigators avoid overspending their grants, at a time when the university's accounting services were unable to keep pace.

Roger spent a year (1965-66) at the Center of Planning and Economic Research in Athens, Greece, concentrating on macroeconomic modeling. On his return to Madison, Roger's interest in modeling and sampling led him to be a consultant to the Office of Statistical Services of the Bureau of the Budget (1967-69) and consultant to the Wisconsin Department of Revenue, where he served for more than 30 years.

Roger taught statistics and economic theory. He team-taught an innovative course on philosophy and economics with Haskell Fain that was well-received in both departments. Roger was a conscientious mentor to dissertators. His most distinguished student was George Tiao, a statistician renowned for his contributions to Bayesian statistics and building the stature of statistics at the university.

Roger ably chaired the summer session for economics for many years, served on the Contemporary Trends Committee, and the Faculty Senate. He retired from the university in 1994 and moved to Maple Grove, Minnesota, to be closer to his children.

Roger's love of team play extended to sports. He was an active coach, board member, and games commissioner for the Madison Youth Soccer Association (1968-76). He played hockey most of the years that he was in Madison and became captain (Old Blues 1980-91) and president of the Oldtimers Hockey Association and the Economics-Business Hockey Association (1975-1990).

Roger was dedicated to the university, to good science, to his friends and family.

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