

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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS JOHN S. STEINHART

Professor Emeritus John Steinhart was born on June 3, 1929 in Chicago, Illinois. He died April 4, 2003 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he lived following his retirement to pursue his many interests, which included solar energy, writing, music, woodworking, jewelry making, and golf.

Steinhart earned a bachelor's degree in economics from Harvard in 1951 where he starred in varsity swimming. He then taught English for one year at Morgan Park Military Academy in Chicago before serving in the U.S. Navy for four years. In 1956 he came to study geophysics with George Woollard in the Department of Geology and Geophysics at UW-Madison. He completed his Ph.D. in 1960 with a thesis entitled "Explosion Studies of Continental Structure." While a graduate student, Steinhart was an avid amateur cellist and ringleader of a group of chamber musicians who played all the Haydn string quartets nonstop during one semester break. Between 1960 and 1968 Steinhart was a scientist at the Carnegie Institution of Washington's Department of Terrestrial Magnetism in Washington D.C. where he conducted research in seismology and heat flow. Steinhart served on the staff of the White House science advisor in both the Johnson and Nixon administrations with responsibilities in energy, resources, and marine and atmospheric sciences. He was elected fellow of the American Geophysical Union in 1967 and fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1968.

Steinhart joined the Department of Geology and Geophysics at the rank of professor in 1969 with one half of his appointment as associate director of the Marine Studies Center. He was charged with bringing together social scientists, lawyers, natural scientists and others to identify and work on problems of the marine environment in a truly interdisciplinary manner. Steinhart was a founding faculty member of the Gaylord Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, which provided a natural home for his multidisciplinary scholarly interests. He helped establish its Energy Analysis and Policy Program in 1979, which he chaired from 1983 until his retirement in 1991. He also coauthored three books on energy with Carol Steinhart.

Steinhart was one of the institute's most colorful and well-liked faculty members. His colleague, Gretchen Schoff, once wrote to him: "Stegner's judgment of Benny DeVoto could as well apply to you: 'It's impossible for him to be dull.'" He supervised the graduate studies of 31 students, most of whom obtained master's degrees in land resources with an energy certificate. A former student characterized him as "gentle yet sharp, patient but insistent, lofty and amazingly precise all at once." His popular courses included "Science and Government," "Energy Resources," and "The Future of Technology." He was noted for his ability to convey his knowledge and insight about energy issues to audiences eloquently. He frequently used succinct topic statements that were attention-getting, then backed up these provocative statements with facts, analysis, and careful reasoning. The university recognized him with a Distinguished Teaching Award in 1991. Steinhart wrote that he would like to be remembered by "He liked teaching a lot!"

Steinhart is survived by his daughter Gail of Ithaca, New York, daughter Martha and granddaughter Mariana of St. Paul, Minnesota, and son Geoff of Ithaca.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Charles Bentley
Robert Dott
Jack Huddleston
Erhard Joeres
Herb Wang, Chair