

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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR WOLFRAM E. NOLTEN

Professor Wolfram E. Nolten, MD, of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, died peacefully in his home on Friday, January 11, 2008. He was 73 years old, having been born in Munich, Germany, on October 21, 1934. He graduated Magna cum Laude from the Munich Medical School in 1961, completed his internship at the University Hospitals of Munich and West Berlin. He subsequently was a research assistant in physiological chemistry at the Free University of West Berlin and completed residencies at the University Hospitals of Mainz, Homburg-Saarland and the Ohio State University. He then did a fellowship in endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center.

Dr. Nolten joined the UW Medical School faculty in July 1974 as assistant professor of medicine in the newly-created Section of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism in the Department of Medicine where he became a charter member. In addition to his clinical and teaching activities at UW Hospital, he had important educational responsibilities at Madison General Hospital (MGH – later renamed Meriter Hospital), not only as co-director of the 4th-year UW medical student clinical clerkship, but also for that institution's medical staff education program. In return for the latter responsibility, he was provided with laboratory space at MGH. He became involved in collaborative research regarding the hormonal regulation of volume homeostasis in normal pregnant women. This research was directed at determining the role of the greatly increased production of mineralocorticoids, aldosterone and desoxycorticosterone in the expanded vascular and extracellular fluid volumes that occur in normal pregnancy. The results of these studies provided insights into the understanding of the alterations in body fluid volume and associated hypertension that occur in toxemia of pregnancy. Dr. Nolten also performed studies of the diurnal variation of serum free cortisol in normal pregnant women, which indicated that the elevated total serum levels of cortisol that occur in pregnancy do not result in increased levels of biologically active hormone, but only reflect increases in corticosteroid-binding proteins induced by estrogens in pregnancy. The importance of this research was acknowledged by an invitation to join the prestigious Society for Gynecologic Research, an uncommon honor for a specialist in internal medicine. Because of his interests in and knowledge of the physiologic changes in pregnancy, he was asked to join the Perinatal High Risk Pregnancy Clinic (then located at MGH) as a consultant and served as an attending in that clinic for many years.

Dr. Nolten rose through the ranks to become professor of medicine in 2005. He had a very large clinical practice, seeing patients in our university's Endocrine, Diabetes, and Andrology Clinics, and in outreach clinics in Wausau, Appleton, Fond du Lac, and Mauston. Dr. Nolten had an abiding interest in problems causing male infertility and was a member of the board of directors for the American Association for Klinefelter Syndrome Information and Support [Committee] and received national recognition when he was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2002.

Dr. Nolten was an active investigator, publishing 37 papers in peer-reviewed journals and 74 abstracts. He also co-authored four book chapters and gave 144 invited lectures, most of these in the state of Wisconsin. Over many years, Dr. Nolten also served the public through the media by providing patient information on male infertility, having participated in 14 radio and 10 television interviews, and 15 magazine and 27 newspaper articles. His role in education spanned the spectrum from first-year medical students to senior fellows in our Endocrine Fellowship Training Program. In addition, he taught students in the Physician Assistant Program and School of Nursing. In recognition of his academic career, Dr. Nolten was a member of a number of professional societies, including the American College of Physicians, American Federation

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for Medical Research, Central Society for Clinical Research, Endocrine Society, American Fertility Society, Andrology Society of America, and American Association for Klinefelter Syndrome.

Dr. Nolten leaves many adoring patients, fond colleagues, friends from near and far, and his loving wife and five adult children and their families. He was preceded in death by his youngest child.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

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