

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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS ARTHUR KELMAN

Professor Emeritus Arthur Kelman passed away at age 90 on Monday, June, 29, 2009 in Raleigh, North Carolina. Arthur grew up in Providence, R.I. where he entered the University of Rhode Island in 1937 with a focus on plant pathology. After he completed his undergraduate studies, he continued to study plant pathology at North Carolina State University at Raleigh. He was called to duty during World War II, serving for three years as a member of the Signal Intelligence Unit in North Africa, Sicily and Italy, where he received a field commission as a 2nd lieutenant. Arthur returned to graduate school at North Carolina State University in 1946, remaining there to complete his Ph.D. degree and to accept a position as an assistant professor of plant pathology in 1949.

In addition to his achievements in research, his skills as an educator and his charismatic influence on students were recognized early in his career. He received the award of Outstanding Instructor in the School of Agriculture in 1956. In 1961, he received a Distinguished Teacher Award and was named William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor of Plant Pathology. In 1965, he moved to the University of Wisconsin at Madison to assume the chair of the Department of Plant Pathology, a position he held for ten years. His research at UW-Madison focused on bacterial plant pathogens and the diseases they cause. He was noted for his contributions on pathogens of potatoes and other vegetables. He made numerous fundamental and practical contributions to the understanding of mechanisms of virulence and pathogenesis and the ecology and control of plant-pathogenic bacteria.

Despite an extremely demanding schedule, he taught the basic undergraduate course in plant pathology for many years, and in 1987, received the Amoco Excellence in Teaching Award and the Spitzer Excellence in Teaching Award from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. In 1975, he was named L. R. Jones Distinguished Professor of Plant Pathology and later served as the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation Senior Research Professor (1985-1989). He was also active in faculty governance and served as chair of the University Committee.

He retired from the UW in 1989 and was awarded emeritus status. He then returned to Raleigh, North Carolina and was appointed as a university distinguished scholar, Department of Plant Pathology, North Carolina State University. Among his many awards, Arthur received the E.C. Stakman Award, University of Minnesota, 1987; the Researcher of the Year Award, Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Industry, 1988; the North American Seed Potato Researcher of the Year Award, 1988; and honorary life membership in the Potato Association of America, 1988.

Arthur also had an outstanding record of service to professional societies, international agriculture, and to the National Academy of Sciences, which elected him to membership in 1973. He was a major force in the development of the International Society for Plant Pathology, and he served as its president from 1973 until 1978. Arthur served as chief scientist, National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program, USDA from 1991 until 1993. In 1969, he was made a fellow of the American Phytopathological Society, and in 1977, he was elected fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, received an Honorary Doctor of Science Degree from the University of Rhode Island, and was named fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology. In 1999, he received an outstanding alumnus award from the Department of Plant Pathology, N.C. State University, and a similar award from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, N.C. State University in 2000.

As one of the most influential plant pathologists of the 20th century, Arthur will be remembered for his great intellect, generous heart, and dedication to students and colleagues. He was a selfless mentor, launching the careers of many successful scientists, providing young people with inspiration and wisdom. Dr. Kelman is survived by his wife of 60 years, Helen Parker Kelman of Raleigh; his son, Philip of New York City, N.Y.; and many nieces and nephews.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

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