

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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS ARTHUR S. GOLDBERGER

Arthur S. Goldberger, Vilas professor emeritus of economics at the University of Wisconsin, died on December 11, 2009 in Madison after an extensive hospitalization. He was born in Brooklyn, New York in 1930. He received a BS degree at New York University in 1951 and a PhD in economics from the University of Michigan in 1958. His dissertation developed an early econometric model of the U.S. economy that had fifteen stochastic equations. It led to two books that were published in 1955 and 1959 by the North-Holland Publishing Company. The first was coauthored with Lawrence R. Klein, his thesis advisor and a future Nobel prize-winner in economics. Their model was distinctive in being the first to forecast an economic recession. The second book was a path-breaking analysis of how econometric models could be used to design policy.

In 1955-56 and again in 1959-60, Arthur was a Fulbright scholar, first at the Netherlands Central Planning Bureau and then at the Econometric Institute in the Netherlands School of Economics. His connection to Holland was deep and long-standing. It was there that he met his future wife, Iefke, who was his tutor in the Dutch language. Their happy marriage was enriched by their two children, Nina and Nick and their respective spouses, Jeff and Carol, and Nina's son, Jake. Iefke, who died in 2007, was an accomplished poet, taught Dutch at the University of Wisconsin, and worked at Memorial Library in the Special Collections Department.

Arthur came to the Wisconsin Department of Economics in 1960 as an associate professor and joined an elite group of econometricians in the recently formed Social Systems Research Institute. He was promoted to full professor in 1963, became the Harold M. Groves Professor in 1970, and was named a Vilas professor in 1979. He was a frequent academic visitor at Stanford University, beginning in 1956. He was a Ford Foundation Faculty Fellow in 1963-64 and a Guggenheim Fellow in 1972 and in 1985. He became a fellow of the Econometric Society in 1964, the American Statistical Association in 1968, and the American Academy of the Arts and Sciences in 1977. He was named a distinguished Fellow of the American Economic Association in 1987 and a foreign member of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Science in 1991.

In addition to the aforementioned books, he published five highly regarded textbooks and co-edited two prominent interdisciplinary monographs, *Structural Equation Models in the Social Sciences* (1973; with Otis Dudley Duncan) and *Latent Variable in Socio-Economic Models* (1977; with Dennis J. Aigner). His 1964 graduate-level textbook, *Econometric Theory*, was praised in the leading journal in econometrics as a "landmark that set a new standard of rigor in econometrics." He published more than 60 articles, was an editor of journals, and served in administrative capacities in several professional organizations.

During his first ten years at Wisconsin, his research was largely focused on the further development of the macro-econometric tools that had been used in his first two North-Holland volumes, but toward the end of the decade his interest shifted towards behavior by firms and individuals. This increased emphasis on microeconomic behavior was to dominate his research over the rest of his career and in his creative interdisciplinary work with sociologists and psychologists. He was an active researcher with the Institute for Research in Poverty from 1972 until he retired in 1998.

Arthur Goldberger was a dedicated teacher whose impact on students at the graduate level is evident in the continuing high quality stream of their publications. Rigor in argument and clarity in exposition were expected. He was a treasured and generous critic of his colleagues' work and a high-principled participant in department deliberations. He was admired and cherished by students and faculty at Wisconsin and at other academic institutions and professional organizations. He is and will be greatly missed.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

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