

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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS JAMES L. LEE

James L. Lee, professor emeritus of counseling psychology, died on July 13, 2009 following an accident at his home. He lived in Sarasota, Florida.

Jim Lee was born in Missoula, Montana (September 10, 1937). He lived in Seaside, Oregon and Athens, Michigan for much of his young life. He graduated in 1959 from Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit, Michigan. He then taught English and Latin at St. Rita High School in Detroit, Michigan for two years; eighth grade at St. Mary's Parish for one year; and English and Latin at Brother Rice High School in Birmingham, Michigan for two years. In 1964 Jim received a master's degree in counseling and guidance from the University of Detroit. He served as a counselor and guidance director at Brother Rice High School until 1967. In 1968 Jim received his PhD in counseling and guidance from the University of Michigan.

In 1968 Jim served as a visiting assistant professor at the University of Michigan Extension Services.

In 1969 Jim accepted a position as assistant professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the Department of Counseling and Guidance (now the Department of Counseling Psychology). Jim was promoted to associate professor in 1972 and full professor in 1975. He remained in the department until his retirement in 1996. Jim received emeritus status upon his retirement in July 1996.

Professor Lee served as department chair from 1981 until 1984 and on many department and university committees. While on the faculty, Jim taught, counseled, advised, published, and created. He was also politically active in many professional organizations. Over his tenure at Wisconsin, Jim taught a variety of courses. His areas of specialty were in intervention strategies, group counseling, and computer applications to counseling psychology. He created a number of courses that extended aspects of counseling psychology to undergraduates and to other graduate disciplines.

Professor Lee's area of research changed over the course of his career. His research interests seemed to flow from his personal passions. His early research reflected his seminarian training and his awareness that many classmates were leaving the seminary before ordination. Jim's PhD thesis investigated vocational persistence of seminarians. This study resulted in the creation of a vocational persistence model used in subsequent research projects. Jim's seminary training also provided the basis for his political action as president of the National Catholic Guidance Conference. Through Jim's guidance this organization was transformed into the Division of Counseling and Values within the American Personnel and Guidance Association.

Over the course of Jim's career, his research interests gravitated to counseling communicative interventions and applications of computer technology to counseling psychology. Three personal and professional threads are apparent. First, Jim was interested in the martial art of aikido where he achieved the status of third degree black belt (sandan). A major goal of aikido is the restoration of harmony which is accomplished through the process of blending. Proponents of aikido enter the adversary's world and redirect the adversary's force to prevent harm to either involved party. The second thread can be found in the principles underlying neuro-linguistic programming and the works of the late Milton H. Erickson. Professor Lee dissected, developed, and applied principles from both of these diverse threads to create counseling interventions that used linguistics to blend with counselees through indirect means. Professor Lee's published books on *Dynamic Counseling* and *Restoring Harmony* reflect his ability to bring the two

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diverse threads together. Professor Lee's courses on counseling intervention using the principles he developed were enthusiastically attended by students of many departments. Examination of Professor Lee's research also reflects a third focus. Jim was instrumental in applying computers to counseling psychology. He developed applications of computers for research, teaching, and evaluation in counseling psychology. His computerized *Counselor Log* and *Counseling Goals System* are but two examples of Professor Lee's work. In total, Professor Lee authored or co-authored over forty professional articles, ten books, and many films, videotapes, and software programs.

Professor Lee was the advisor to many master's and PhD students. He was an enthusiastic advisor who stimulated creative research. Students enjoyed being associated with Professor Lee and benefited greatly from his tutelage. Jim applied the principles of aikido to his teaching. He redirected instead of opposing, he extended compassion to overwhelmed and anxious students, and helped students bring clarity into their changing world. In 1995 Professor Lee was inducted into the University of Wisconsin Teaching Academy.

Professor Lee was a consummate professional. He found a way to integrate aspects of his life. He brought his passions from outside his professional world meaningfully into his professional world. Jim practiced what he preached and preached what he practiced. Jim had an enthusiasm for ideas, people, sports cars, martial arts, creative pursuits, and family. Jim owned sports cars throughout his life. He and his daughter participated in the BMW driving school where driving in excess of 100 miles per hour was commonplace. Jim taught aikido. He was an avid photographer, a consummate reader, and a golf enthusiast. Jim loved his family of wife, Pamela, his daughters Gwen and Melissa, and his four grandchildren. When Jim's wife, Pamela, had a tragic accident resulting in a severe head injury, Jim retired from the university faculty and devoted himself to her rehabilitation. As he had done throughout his illustrious career, Professor Lee let his values guide his life and his work.

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