

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

**ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS RICHARD F. BRISTOL**

Professor Emeritus Richard F. Bristol of Waunakee, Wisconsin died July 6, 2010. He was born on March 5, 1925 in Michigan and served in the Navy during World War II. He received his doctor of veterinary medicine degree from Michigan State University in 1951 and master of science degree from Iowa State University in 1966. Professor Bristol retired from the School of Veterinary Medicine in 1988 after serving as professor of medical sciences and associate dean for clinical affairs since 1981 and 1982, respectively. Prior to that, he was appointed in 1974 as professor at UW-Extension and the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, Department of Veterinary Science.

From 1951 until 1962 Dr. Bristol practiced veterinary medicine in Montfort, Wisconsin. From 1958 to 1962 he also served as visiting lecturer at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, teaching principles of animal health to agriculture students. Dr. Bristol's passion for education is further evidenced by his work towards the consolidation of the Iowa-Grant School District, which led to the opening of the new Iowa-Grant School in 1960. A favorite project of his was the establishment of an indoor atrium garden inside the front entrance of the school. He helped students with the planning and planting of the garden when the school opened, and he continued working with Future Farmers of America members well into his retirement to maintain and improve that garden. His ongoing fondness for the school included being active in the Iowa-Grant Educational Foundation.

Dr. Bristol left his veterinary medical practice in Montfort in 1962 to join the faculty of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University. He was appointed as assistant professor and advanced to the rank of professor in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences in 1968. He was the director of the clinic for cattle, sheep and goats and lectured on large animal medicine and surgery in the courses that were team-taught by the departmental staff.

Dr. Bristol returned to Wisconsin in 1970 to establish veterinary medical practice in Merrill. In 1974 he was recruited to join the Department of Veterinary Science in CALS as extension veterinarian. He was well-known and enjoyed by audiences throughout the state. He was a popular lecturer in CALS Short Course. Professor Larry Meiller recalled that "Dick Bristol was one of the first guests I had on my [radio] program and appeared many times over the years. He was an audience favorite! He had a great sense of humor and could convey complicated medical information about animals in a way that anyone could understand. He really enjoyed interacting with people and they, in turn, loved hearing him speak. He was a master at extending the boundaries of the campus to the boundaries of the state." It was also during the 1970s that Dr. Bristol was very active in helping to develop and establish the Simmental breed of cattle in the U.S.

Because of his extensive experience in clinical medicine in practices in Wisconsin and his faculty experience at Iowa State University, Dr. Bristol was invited to participate in the early planning stages of the School of Veterinary Medicine. He provided leadership for the design for the clinical facilities and the operating infrastructure for the veterinary medical teaching hospital. With the establishment of the school, he was appointed associate dean for clinical affairs and director of the hospital.

In addition to his professional pursuits in private veterinary medical practice and academic veterinary medicine, he was very active in the community and in organized veterinary medicine. In 1958, he received the Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association (WVMA) Veterinarian of the Year award given annually to a member who has "made major contributions toward the advancement of the veterinary medical

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profession.” His active involvement in the WVMA continued, and he served as president in 1977. He was recognized as a 50-year member of the WVMA in 2001. For of his considerable effort in establishing the Iowa-Grant School and contributions to education, he received the Iowa-Grant County Award in 1960. While at Iowa State University, he received the Cardinal Key Leadership Honorary Award for noteworthy scholarship and service.

Professor Bristol is survived by his wife Barbara, one son, four daughters, five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and three sisters.

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