

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

**ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS DENNIS P. STIMART**

Professor Emeritus Dennis P. Stimart, age 61, passed away on September 4, 2010, surrounded by his family at his home in Verona. Dennis was born on January 10, 1949 to Joseph and Jeanette (Weitzel) Stimart in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He obtained his bachelor's degree in horticulture from the University of Minnesota and then served for two and one-half years in the Peace Corps in Morocco. Upon returning home, he obtained a Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota and then took a faculty position at the University of Maryland. He held this position at Maryland for eight years, after which time he was recruited to join the horticulture faculty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1986.

Dennis' research interests focused on ornamental plant breeding and genetics with an emphasis on improving cut flower longevity, adventitious root formation, and interspecific hybridization in a variety of species. Dennis mentored many undergraduate and graduate students as an academic advisor, teacher and graduate research supervisor. Dennis also taught core courses in greenhouse management of ornamental plants to thousands of students during his 23 years on the faculty. He also helped recruit funding for two Wisconsin Distinguished Graduate Fellowships in horticulture, which provide long-term funding for graduate training in areas that are important to the department.

Through Dennis' foresight, the grounds of the CALS dean's residence on the corner of Babcock Drive and Observatory Drive on the UW-Madison campus were transformed into a horticultural marvel. Dennis was instrumental in the creation and management of this space that became the Allen Centennial Gardens, now considered one of the Midwest's premier teaching gardens. He also helped design and manage the D.C. Smith instructional greenhouses on the corner of Babcock Drive and Linden Drive on the UW-Madison campus, which supports the production of plant materials for a wide variety of courses. Dennis retired in December 2009 to spend additional time with his family and friends. He is survived by his wife, Jane Barnett; his children Erica (Joseph) Svec and Dane Stimart; two step-children, Mathew (Helen) Stanke and Kelly (Darren) Hoyland; one grandchild, Emily Hoyland; and two siblings, Mary (Guy) Gregg and Gregory (Martha) Stimart.

Dennis Stimart was honest, straightforward, thoughtful, measured and considerate. His sense of calm and fairness could be counted on in all situations. Dennis was also known as a person who did not seek the limelight himself but who sought to make it possible for others to achieve their goals. In this way, his quiet, thoughtful, steady approach helped hundreds of students, staff and faculty succeed. He was a great listener and an even greater doer. He will long be remembered as a teacher, a gardener, a builder, a friend, and trusted colleague.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE  
Irwin Goldman, chair  
Jiwan Palta