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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS PAUL O. MADSEN

Dr. Paul O. Madsen, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Urology at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, died on November 4, 2013 at the age 86 from cancer of the prostate, a disease for which he treated hundreds of patients.

Paul Madsen was born to Poul Gerhard and Anna Marie Madsen on a farm in a small Danish village. The first from his family to go to college, he obtained his MD degree from the University of Copenhagen, Denmark. He then studied at the University of Rochester, NY as a Fulbright Fellow. Thereafter, an Alexander von Humboldt fellowship took him to the University of Heidelberg, Germany where he met his wife Renate. He completed his residency in Urology at the University of Buffalo, NY, interrupted by a two-year service commitment in the US Army Medical Corps in Nürnberg, Germany.

The couple looked for opportunity and came to Madison, where over three decades at the University of Wisconsin his career flourished. He eventually became Professor of Urology and Chief of Urology at the William S. Middleton Veterans Hospital. Renate, an anesthesiologist, also joined the medical school faculty and UW Hospital staff in 1962. Dr. Madsen was an active surgeon and researcher for more than three decades, publishing over 300 scientific papers and numerous textbook chapters in Urology. He was especially recognized for his early groundbreaking work on prostate cancer and the treatment of benign prostatic hyperplasia.

During his tenure at the University of Wisconsin, he was especially active in mentoring dozens of Urology residents as well as research physician-fellows from Denmark, Germany and Switzerland. Many of these individuals went on to have successful research and academic careers. He had a notable interest in his native country and trained over 24 Danish physician-fellows and initiated, with the local faculty in Copenhagen, an annual urological course at the University of Copenhagen. For these contributions to medicine, Denmark's Queen Margrethe made him a Knight of the Order of Dannebrog, one of the two Danish royal orders of chivalry.

Ever loyal to his Danish heritage, Dr. Madsen donated generously to the University of Wisconsin Madison to assure continuance of Scandinavian Studies there, endowing the Paul and Renate Madsen Professorship in Danish.

Dr. Madsen had innumerable interests, foremost among them his family, friends, nature and music. He was an avid naturalist and planted more than one hundred thousand trees on his farmland. In his younger days, he was an accomplished classical planist.

He was a mentor to many and left behind a large imprint on the field of Urology nationally and internationally. Those closest to him remember him as dignified, generous, optimistic and loving. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Dr. Renate Madsen, their three children, eleven grandchildren and many friends.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE