Committee on Memorial Resolutions

2007-2008 Annual Report

In 2007-2008, memorials for the following 80 Senate members were approved and published in In Memoriam at the Academic Senate website:
http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/senate/inmemoriam/welcome.html

Frederick E. Balderston (Business Administration)
George Webber Barlow (Integrative Biology)
Robert L. Beloof (Rhetoric)
Seth Bertram Benson (Zoology)
William Eugene Berg (Zoology)
Albert Hosmer Bowker (Statistics)
Anna Livia Julian Brawn (French)
Gerard Ernest Caspary (History)
Alfred Wheeler Childs (School of Public Health)
Vèvè A. Clark (African American Studies)
Donald Lee Dahlsten (Environmental Science, Policy, and Management)
Gerard Debreu (Economics and Mathematics)
Thomas Bentley Edwards (Graduate School of Education)
Gerald D. Feldman (History)
Caleb Foote (Law)
John W. Gofman (Molecular and Cell Biology)
James R. Gray (Graduate School of Education)
Joseph Tracy Gregory (Paleontology)
Judith E. Gruber (Political Science)
Thomson Gunn (English)
Ernst Bernard Haas (Political Science)
Cadet Hammond Hand Jr. (Zoology)
Donald N. Hanson (Chemical Engineering)
James A. Harder (Civil and Environmental Engineering)
Heinz Heinemann (Chemical Engineering)
Paul A. Heist (Graduate School of Education)
Harold C. Helgeson (Earth and Planetary Science)
Leon Albert Henkin (Mathematics)
William Murice Hoskins (Entomology)
F. Clark Howell (Anthropology)
Andrew Welsh Imbrie (Music)
Norman Jacobson (Political Science)
David L. Jones (Earth and Planetary Science)
Donald Robert Kaplan (Plant and Microbial Biology)
Irving Kaplansky (Mathematics)
Cathleen Keller (Near Eastern Studies)
Clark Kerr (Business Administration)
Daniel E. Koshland Jr. (Molecular and Cell Biology)
Nadine Murphy Lambert (Graduate School of Education)
Martin Landau (Political Science)
Richard S. Lazarus (Psychology)
Luna Bergere Leopold (Earth and Planetary Science and Landscape Architecture)
R. Burton Litton Jr. (Landscape Architecture)
Peter Lyman (School of Information)
Herbert McClosky (Political Science)
Thomas Vincent McEvilly (Earth and Planetary Science)
Richard Meier (Architecture; City and Regional Planning; and Landscape Architecture)
Martin Meyerson (City and Regional Planning)
Agnes Mihalik (Slavic Languages and Literatures)
Donald H. Minkler (School of Public Health)
Robert I. Mishell (Molecular & Cell Biology)
Francis H. Moffitt (Civil and Environmental Engineering)
Roger Montgomery (Architecture and City and Regional Planning)
Robert K. Mortimer (Molecular and Cell Biology)
Leonard Edward Nathan (Rhetoric)
Oliver Payne Pearson (Zoology)
Frank Alois Pitelka (Zoology)
Nelson W. Polsby (Political Science)
Leo Postman (Psychology)
Douglas R. Powell (Geography)
William Kendrick Pritchett (Classics)
Ralph W. Rader (English)
Thomas Warren Ramsey (French and Comparative Literature)
Michael C. Rogers (East Asian Languages and Cultures)
Donald Elvin Savage (Paleontology)
Virgil E. Schrock (Nuclear Engineering)
Alexander C. Scordelis (Civil and Environmental Engineering)
Donald Howard Shively (East Asian Languages and Cultures)
Esmond Snell (Biochemistry)
Blake Lee Spahr (German and Comparative Literature)
Harry B. Stehr Jr. (Graduate School of Education)
Edward C. Stone (Environmental Science, Policy, and Management)
John Holland Thow (Music)
Martin Trow (Goldman School of Public Policy)
Robert Lawson Vaught (Mathematics)
Melvin M. Webber (City and Regional Planning)
Kenneth Dean Weisinger (German and Comparative Literature)
Robert Brady Williamson (Civil and Environmental Engineering)
Benjamin Mather Woodbridge Jr. (Spanish and Portuguese)
Paul J. Zinke (Environmental Science, Policy, and Management)

As in the past, this committee’s greatest challenge has been to achieve timely publication of the memorial resolutions honoring deceased colleagues. Many, if not most, department chairs and ad hoc committees collaborate in this task with exemplary dispatch, and to these we are grateful. It is the others, of course, that cause the difficulties; yet this year’s adjustments in our operations have yielded good results in terms of completion of memorials (80 compared to 44 last year). We have now resolved all cases for faculty deceased before 2007.

After discovering that the systemwide Senate office has no rule requiring these resolutions to have at least one faculty author, and with the approval of the Divisional Council, the committee contacted Marie Felde, executive director of Media Relations at the Office of Public Affairs, who gave us “blanket approval to use [its] obituary information at will” and to edit its published obituaries if we see fit. Since obituaries are published in The Berkeleyan for many, though not all, deceased members of the faculty,
this development has made it possible for us drastically to change our procedures and to avoid unseemly delays.

We have stopped sending repeated reminders to laggard department chairs and ad hoc committees, a process that even under the revisions we adopted in 2006-2007 could continue for as long as six years, with no guarantee of having a draft at the end of this time. We now send reminders only once, and the maximum time for producing a draft is about nine months, which does not seem to us unreasonably demanding for a 700-1500 word memorial. If within our new deadlines we get no draft, we ask the department chair to nominate a new committee; if that fails, we use an obituary from the Office of Public Affairs, generally with minor changes. If no such obituary is available, we close the case, which has been necessary only rarely. We have been reluctant to use obituaries published other than in The Berkeleyan because our sole experience with doing so came to involve copyright issues.

As always, our committee would appreciate any help it might receive from the Division that would convince all our colleagues that the preparation of these memorials really is not some extraneous imposition, but part of their work, a tribute to the departed and an act of solidarity with their survivors, and that it should be attended to in a timely manner.

Respectfully submitted,

John Polt
2007-08 Chair, Committee on Memorial Resolutions
Professor of Spanish and Portuguese, Emeritus