

DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**IN MEMORIAM
GEORGE H. FANCHER**

George H. Fancher, retired professor of petroleum engineering, died on July 19, 1995. He was 93.

Professor Fancher was born on September 3, 1901, in San Francisco, California. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Southern California in 1923, a master's degree from the University of Maryland in 1926, and a DSc from the Colorado School of Mines in 1930.

Dr. Fancher taught at the Universities of Maryland and Michigan, Pennsylvania State College, and the Colorado School of Mines. He joined the faculty of The University of Texas at Austin in 1935. He served as chairman of the Department of Petroleum Engineering from 1956 to 1960, when he retired.

Professor Fancher's research interests included core analysis and permeability flow of fluids. He patented a process for cracking heavy oils at low pressure and was a founder of the Texas Petroleum Research Committee, which devised new methods to recover oil. Dr. Fancher initiated the first legal reservoir water flood project in Kansas and the second such project in Texas. He authored numerous articles in professional journals, and published several books, including *Secondary Recovery of Petroleum in Arkansas* in 1946.

In 1968 Professor Fancher was recognized for his research by the Society of Petroleum Engineers with the John Franklin Carl award. In 1981 UT Austin established a professorship in petroleum engineering in his name.

John R. Durbin, Secretary
The General Faculty

Biographical sketch prepared by Teresa Palomo Acosta and posted on the Faculty Council web site on November 17, 2000. Additional biographical sources can be found in the Barker Texas History Center and the UT Office of Public Affairs.