IN MEMORIAM

PROFESSOR EMERITUS LEE F. WORRELL

Dr. Worrell was invited to join the College of Pharmacy Faculty in 1960 as Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry by the late Dean Henry M. Burlage. Dean Burlage's principal objective was to develop the PhD program of the College of Pharmacy, and Professor Worrell was given the charge to provide the necessary thrust in the discipline of pharmaceutical chemistry. Since Dr. Worrell succeeded Dean Burlage the following year, his responsibilities quickly broadened to include all pharmaceutical sciences. Dean Worrell's philosophy concerning the graduate program was appreciated because he encouraged younger faculty to assume full participation in the graduate program. Dean Worrell therefore provided assistant and associate professors opportunities to attract and direct PhD students, and in fact the first PhD in pharmaceutical chemistry was awarded in 1964 under Worrell's deanship. Accordingly, the members of this committee welcome this opportunity to formally acknowledge Dean Worrell's contributions with great appreciation.

Educational and Professional Background:

Lee Worrell was graduated from Orleans (Indiana) elementary and high schools and immediately enrolled at the Purdue University School of Pharmacy, graduating in 1935 with the BS in Pharmacy. At the Purdue University Graduate School his research in pharmaceutical chemistry led not only to the PhD (1940), but also to a significant publication which is now considered to be a classic in pharmaceutical chemistry because it is one of the pioneer works in pharmaceutical analysis involving enzymology.
Dr. Worrell was very proud to be a member of the pharmacy profession; he was a registered pharmacist in Indiana, Michigan and Texas, and he always kept up with the laws, rules and regulations affecting pharmacy practice. His interests in this regard led him to critically review and recommend changes in the Texas Pharmacy Law during the 1960's.

Teaching Career:

Lee's first professional love was teaching, not only in the classroom and laboratory but informally on a person to person basis. Both undergraduate and graduate students remember him affectionately.

He started his 41 year teaching career in 1938 at Drake University College of Pharmacy, Des Moines, Iowa, and after four years moved to the University of Michigan where he taught until 1960. During his tenure at Michigan, Professor Worrell received national recognition for his contributions to the development of his major field of teaching and research, pharmaceutical analysis as a scientific discipline in pharmaceutical education. He championed the modernization of pharmaceutical analysis courses in colleges of pharmacy through seminars sponsored by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. Thus, throughout his career he supported many activities and publications of this association.

While at the University of Michigan, Dr. Worrell also developed one of the first graduate programs in pharmaceutical analysis with particular emphasis on physical and analytical chemistry, including spectrophotometry. During this period he supervised six PhD's and twenty MS candidates, and was a member of many other PhD committees.
Upon arriving at The University of Texas in 1960 he immediately demonstrated his interests and dedication to teaching, graduate research and also to the details concerning the undergraduate curriculum in pharmacy and the graduate program in general. He collaborated with those of us who were supervising PhD students by providing very candid and constructive criticisms based on his experiences at Michigan. In some cases his candor irritated some people but was always stimulating and appreciated by the students.

When Professor Worrell assumed the deanship of the College of Pharmacy he felt that the undergraduate curriculum required revision by the faculty in order to provide the basis for both the practice of pharmacy and graduate studies in the pharmaceutical sciences. Thus, as dean, his academic responsibilities were always his highest priorities.

Dr. Worrell returned to full time teaching and research in 1966 and continued to participate actively in the more important committees of the College, Graduate School and the University. He also enjoyed his work counselling students in the Dean's office, both honor and "academic-problem" students.

It is difficult to document all the details concerning Lee's many contributions to the committee work of the College. He served as chairman of the Budget Council several terms and also chaired the Curriculum Committee and the Graduate Studies Committee for many years. In every committee and in faculty meetings he always seemed to make the most appropriate and meaningful comment at the right time, and his unique blend of wit and wisdom was always welcomed whether or not everyone agreed with his candid opinions.
His contributions in academic advising are also very numerous and
difficult to detail; however, when one attends professional meetings and
conferences across the country one never fails to meet former students who
reminisce about having been counselled and in some cases "saved" by Dr.
Worrell.

Former PhD students, who are now well established university professors
scattered throughout the country, acknowledge that they learned not only
spectroscopy and instrumental analysis from Professor Worrell, but more
significantly very sound scientific educational philosophy.

Regarding the latter sentiments, Worrell's colleagues agree that our
teaching philosophies were very profoundly influenced by Lee during many
formal and informal seminars and colloquia. Worrell's intellectual curiosity
ranged from the most theoretical questions concerning atomic and molecular
structure all the way to history, philosophy and political science. Those of
us who argued with him concerning the more controversial issues always
concluded with a much more scholarly perspective.

Dr. Worrell also was very active in general University affairs, the
Graduate Assembly, Faculty Senate, and University Council. He always
effectively represented the college, and the faculty formally acknowledged
their appreciation at a dinner honoring him upon his retirement in 1979.

Even after retiring to live in Ann Arbor, Michigan, he kept in regular
contact with UT through his many friends who still miss him. As role model
he always demonstrated the greatest loyalty to the College and the
University.
Personal:

All who knew Lee Worrell will attest that he was very devoted to his wife, Mary. He was also very proud of his daughter, Shirley, who is a pharmacist, graduate of the University of Michigan. His son-in-law is a distinguished professor of law at Michigan, and the two Worrell granddaughters are following their father's professional career; one graduated from Law School in 1986, and the other graduates this year.

Lee's many friends will always remember him as "the academic gentleman" who always expected excellence as the minimal standard of performance. Many students remember him as a very demanding teacher but readily admit that he always was fair in every respect.

The college and the University will always be indebted to Dr. Worrell for his loyalty and many contributions.

William H. Cunningham, President
The University of Texas at Austin

H. Paul Kelley, Secretary
The General Faculty

This Memorial Resolution was prepared by a Special Committee consisting of Professors Jaime N. Delgado (Chairman), Robert G. Brown, and William J. Sheffield.