WISCONSIN ACADEMY AWARDS—1980

Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters—Honorary Membership

Each year the Academy elects to honorary membership, residents of Wisconsin who have brought unusual recognition and honor to our state by achieving great distinction. At this time, the Academy extends honorary membership to three of our fellow citizens, Robert H. Burris, Joseph O. Hirschfelder and Verner E. Suomi. To each of them, the President of the United States gave the National Medal of Science, this country’s highest award for scientific achievement.

Joseph O. Hirschfelder, Homer Adkins professor of theoretical chemistry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, is credited with being the first scientist to predict that nuclear explosions would produce radiation fallout. Most of his research has been conducted in molecular quantum mechanics, theory of liquids, transport properties of gases, and flames and detonations. Joseph Hirschfelder is a fellow of the American Association of Arts and Science and holds the Debye Award of the American Chemical Society for his achievements in theoretical and physical chemistry, as well as the Sir Alfred Egerton Gold Medal of the International Combustion Society for his development of the theory of flames and detonations. The National Medal of Science was presented to him in 1976 for his fundamental contributions to atomic and molecular quantum mechanics. In presenting him an honorary doctor of science degree in January, the University of Southern California cited him as a respected and devoted teacher, caring advisor to students, and as one who “pursues with imagination and success the most rigorous and challenging research.”

Verner E. Suomi, professor of meteorology, and director of the Space Science and Engineering Center of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, headed the Wisconsin team that developed experiments aboard Explorer VII and the TIROS-TOSS satellites. He invented the spin-scan cameras aboard the ATS-1 and ATS-3 satellites, and directed the design and construction of atmospheric heat-measuring devices on three of the Pioneer Venus probes. He holds the Mesinger Award for aerological research achievement, the Carl-Gustof Rossby Research Medal, highest award of the Meteorological Society, and the Charles Franklin Brooks Award of the American Meteorological Society, an organization which he has served as president. He was honored recently with the Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for his role in the Pioneer spacecraft to Venus.

Robert H. Burris, W. H. Peterson Professor of biochemistry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, is best known for his research on nitrogen fixation. His discoveries hold promise of great practical value for agriculture in Wisconsin and throughout the world. Robert Burris, author of more than 200 technical papers, is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Society of Biological Chemists, the American Chemical Society, and has served as President of the American Society of Plant Physiologists and on the Executive Committee of the Assembly of Life Sciences of the National Research Council. In 1977 he received the Charles Reid Barnes Life Membership Award, presented by the American Society of Plant Physiologists.
Mark Hoyt Ingraham

Mark Hoyt Ingraham, born in Brooklyn, New York, came to Wisconsin in 1919 with a bachelor's degree in economics from Cornell in order to pursue a masters in mathematics. Since then, in more than sixty years, he has wandered off the reservation only twice, and then briefly—two years for his doctoral degree from the University of Chicago and two years as an assistant professor at Brown University. In 1927, he returned to Madison for good. I used the word advisedly. That is what Mark Ingraham has done for our University, our community, and our state for over half a century.

At 22, he was a captain in the United States Army in France. He has been president of the AAUP. He is a national authority on faculty retirement matters and has served for many years on University, state, and national boards concerned with them. He is the author of six books.

As a professor of mathematics, as Dean of Letters and Science, as counsellor to presidents and chancellors, and to all who consulted him, he has been friend and guide, and a source of wisdom to countless students and colleagues. A pillar of strength on fundamental issues—academic freedom, human rights, the true liberal education as opposed to narrow specialization, and faculty voice in academic affairs—Mark Ingraham has come to embody the liberalism and enlightenment that characterize Wisconsin far beyond the state borders.

With gratitude and respect, the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts, and Letters acknowledges a profound debt to Mark Hoyt Ingraham, for which this Wisconsin Academy Citation is offered as a token.

Frederick Nelson MacMillin

At the retirement in 1965 of Frederick Nelson MacMillin, the Milwaukee Journal described him as “... one of the strongest pillars undergirding the quality and the integrity of both local and state government in the last 35 years.”

Born in Dayton, Ohio, educated at Columbia University and the University of Wisconsin, Frederick MacMillin became the first full-time executive secretary of the League of Wisconsin Municipalities in 1929, and he made it an effective voice of Wisconsin cities and villages. He served as president of the American Municipal Association, now known as the National League of Cities. He has been a lecturer in political science at the University of Wisconsin and a frequent contributor of articles to professional journals in the fields of municipal government and public management. In 1943, he formulated and was responsible for the enactment of what is now the Wisconsin Retirement Fund.

Frederick MacMillin was a charter member of the Wisconsin Investment Board, on which he served until after his retirement; and played a key role in making that board a national model. He wrote the constitutions of both the National Association of State Retirement Administrators and of the National Conference of State Social Security Administrators and served the latter as president. Through the Committee on Retirement of the American Municipal Association, he was influential in extending social security coverage to public personnel nationwide and guided through Congress in 1953 the bill that provides social-security coverage to persons under the Wisconsin Retirement Fund. He formulated and administered the group life insurance program as well as the group health insurance program for state personnel.

Frederick Nelson MacMillin has devoted his life to the advancement of the well being of the State of Wisconsin and its citizens. It is, therefore, with pleasure that the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters
takes this occasion to bestow upon him this Wisconsin Academy Citation, indicative of the honor in which he is held and the appreciation of his fellow citizens.

**Martha Elizabeth Peterson**

Martha Elizabeth Peterson, born and educated in Kansas, first became associated in higher education at the University of Kansas as a member of the faculty in mathematics and then as Dean of Women. In the latter capacity, she came to the University of Wisconsin in 1956, where for ten years she administered student affairs, becoming Dean of Students in the evolving University of Wisconsin System. In 1967, she left Wisconsin to spend eight years as President of Barnard College and Dean of Columbia University. Wisconsin, however, was fortunate enough to be able to claim her again in 1975, when she returned to take her present post, President of Beloit College.

She is also a trustee of Notre Dame University, a member of the President’s Commission on White House Scholarships, a member of the Rhodes Scholar Committee in Wisconsin, recipient of sixteen honorary degrees, of numerous awards, and a member of an impressive list of major corporate boards.

At the University of Wisconsin, Martha Peterson was largely responsible for the major change in the policy in higher education from treating undergraduates as children to respecting them as adults. In Madison and in New York, she faced the problems of those troubled years with calm integrity, defending academic freedom and standards.

To Martha Elizabeth Peterson, citizen of our state, who has contributed in so many ways to the values that the Academy represents, the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences-Arts, and Letters presents this Wisconsin Academy Citation.