Memorial Resolution

Robert Stansbury ‘Stan’ Stockton

1925-2017

Professor Robert Stansbury ‘Stan’ Stockton, known for designing the A-Core curriculum at the Kelley School and helping with the first Affirmative Action Plan for the Bloomington campus, died August 28, 2017. He was ninety-one years of age.

Stan was born in Lawrence, Kansas, to Margaret (Stansbury) Stockton and Frank Tenney Stockton, who was the founding dean of the business school at the University of Kansas, on October 22, 1935.

Stan earned a PhD at The Ohio State University, an MBA at Harvard, and a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering at the University of Kansas. His studies were interrupted twice by war; serving as a Gunnery Officer in the Navy during World War II and in Navy Intelligence during the Korean War. After the completion of his doctoral program, he taught on the faculty at Ohio State until he was hired as an Associate Professor with tenure at Indiana University in 1958 and promoted to Professor in 1963.

Few faculty members in the School of Business have held as many administrative appointments as Stan during his tenure at Indiana University. Stan was chair of the original Production Management and Industrial Engineering Department from 1961 to 1971, acting chair of the Personnel and Organizational Behavior Department from 1966 to 1967, and chair of the Management Administrative Studies Department from 1967 to 1971. From 1971 to 1977 he was chair of the Doctoral Business Administration Program in the School of Business. This was an important assignment during a major period of rapid growth in the school’s doctoral program. Stan’s last administrative appointment was as chair of the Operations and Systems Management Department from 1977 to 1979.

Besides his many administrative duties, he had time to author two books: Basic Inventory Systems: Concepts & Analysis (1965) and Introduction to Linear Programming (1971). The books reflected a transition point when the Production/Operations field was taking advantage of evolving computer power and moving to a more analytical approach for business decisions.

In the late 1960s and early ’70s, Stan was instrumental in developing the undergraduate A-Core curriculum, which was launched in 1971 at Indiana University’s School of Business. In 1986, he and Professor Bill Panschar designed and implemented the first computerized A-Core course. In addition to his contributions to the School of Business, Stan was appointed to the Bloomington Faculty Council committee charged with creating IU’s Affirmative Action plan for the campus in 1978.

During Stan’s thirty-two years of service to Indiana University, he has contributed to the success of the School of Business in many ways. First, his devotion to students and interest in teaching were exemplary. He was recognized as an outstanding teacher, winning teaching awards for his dedication to classroom excellence and student learning. Stan’s interest in students was also shown by the many hours he spent outside the classroom working with students. His friendliness and his forthright manner always was appreciated. Many of his students affectionately came to call him “Doc.”

During his latter years at Indiana University, Stan was the course coordinator for P301, the multi-section Introductory Operations Management course in the School of Business. For many years, this class was knows as Stan’s course and students taking A-core would fight to be in Stan’s section.
Throughout his career, Stan was recognized for attaining a high level of excellence. While in college, he was inducted into three engineering honorarias: Tau Beta Pi, Sigma Tau, and Pi Tau Sigma. He was also inducted into the business honorarias of Beta Gamma Sigma and Sigma Iota Epsilon. In 1965 he was elected a fellow of the Academy of Management for his contributions to management education.

Stan remained in Bloomington after his retirement in 1991. At the time of his retirement, Professor John Long described Stan as “A man for all seasons, who has a keen intellect, self-effacing humor, academic savoir faire and outstanding pedagogical skills, who has subordinated time and again his own personal needs to the prevailing needs of the school.” An avid stamp collector, Stan was a long-time member of the Bloomington Stamp Club. His specialty was canceled Asian and Australian stamps. He acted as a clearing agent for a number of collectors around the United States.

Stan was preceded in death by his parents, a younger brother, Phillip Jerome Stockton; and his first wife, Marilyn (Smart) Stockton. He leaves his second wife, Moya Andrews; three children, Cynthia Kemp, Bryan Grant Stockton, and Jennifer Gianni; stepchildren, Alistair, Jennifer and Carson Andrews; grandchildren, Mathew, Elizabeth and Robbie Kemp, Lauren Stockton Zelmer, Meredith Stockton, Aaron and Cassandra Gianni, and Garrett and Chase Kassel; and great-grandchildren, Sienna and Cole Zelmer.

I request that this resolution be part of the minutes and archive of the Bloomington Faculty Council and that a copy should be sent to Stan’s wife, Moya Andrews.

Vincent Mabert
Professor of Operations Emeritus
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IUB