MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE FACULTY OF THE UNIVERSE OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS GEORGE W. SLEDGE

George W. Sledge, longtime associate dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, died on October 20, 1999 in Madison. He was born in Nashville, North Carolina, February 5, 1928 and was reared on a North Carolina farm. His education included a BS and MS degree from North Carolina State University, and a PhD degree from Michigan State University.

In 1954, he began his academic career at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, appointed assistant professor in the Department of Continuing and Vocational Education. He attained the rank as associate professor in 1957 and full professor in 1960.

In recognition of his leadership abilities and the advancement of undergraduate student academic development, he was appointed as assistant to the dean and director of the College of Agriculture in 1964; one year later he was appointed associate dean and director in the Office of Academic Student Affairs. He retired from this position in 1993 after service of twenty-eight years. During his long term of service, he participated in certifying eighty percent of all undergraduates receiving degrees from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. Even in retirement, Dr. Sledge continued service to the college by initiating and coordinating a volunteer program for emeritus faculty, utilizing their talents in continued service to the university.

Among the universe of accomplishments to his credit, must certainly be counted his work in contributing to the wealth of opportunities available to undergraduate students. These include initiation of the CALS Honors Degree Program, the Coordinative Internship Program, the Excellence in Teaching Award, and the first Advisor Award of Merit. In 1989, he completed his multi-year Kellogg curriculum project extensively revitalizing the entire undergraduate curriculum in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

Beyond the boundaries of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the State of Wisconsin, Dr. Sledge served with distinction as a member of the National Association of Schools Universities and Land Grant Colleges [NASULGC]. He was elected to the USDA Joint Council on Food and Agricultural Sciences and served as a senator on the Board of Directors of the Division of Agriculture, Resident Instruction Committee.

Highlights of his international accomplishments consist of chief of party for a United States Agency for International Development Feasibility Study Team to Nigeria, as consultant to the Ford Foundation at the University of Zambia and as team member of the Agricultural Education Administrator's Foreign Agricultural Service Group to study colleges of agriculture in the People's Republic of China. Dr. Sledge was instrumental in establishing international student exchange programs with the University of the West Indies in Trinidad and Tobago and at the University of Newcastle, England.

Dr. Sledge began his dedicated lifetime profession of agricultural education and educational administration devoting his abilities in a manner representing the highest ideals of the Wisconsin Idea. The University of Wisconsin-Madison could not have been more fortunate than to have had the devoted service of Dr. George W. Sledge as a member of the faculty and administration in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences for more than thirty nine years.

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George Sledge lived a full, rewarding life of service to his profession, his community, and his family. He is survived by his devoted wife Dotty; two sons, George W. Sledge, Jr. and Jeffrey Scott Sledge.

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