MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR
Emeritus Associate Professor Victor Ven-Kai Chou (1922-1989)

Members of the faculty of the School of Business Administration, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee as well as many other colleagues at the University, in the community and across the nation were saddened by the death of Victor Ven-Kai Chou. His wise counsel will be missed by faculty, alumni and students, by the Chinese American community and by business, educational and other organizations locally and internationally. Victor was respected not only as a brilliant and dedicated scholar but as a gentle man of great integrity.

Born in Shanghai, China, Victor Chou attended the National Central University in Chungking, graduating in 1943 with a degree in political science. During World War II, he served in the Chinese Army, attaining the rank of Major. He fought in the China-Burma-India Theater side-by-side with the late Colonel Albert C. Schallock, a long time businessman in Milwaukee. In 1946, Victor came to visit the Schallocks and stayed in Wisconsin ever since.

Dr. Chou received his B.A. in 1947, MBA in 1948 and Ph.D in 1953, all from the University of Wisconsin. He rose through the ranks of Allis Chalmers Corporation to become chief economist and served in that capacity until 1969. Victor joined the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee’s School of Business Administration first as Lecturer and then as Associate Professor, and he served in these positions almost 19 years when he retired because of illness. His wife, Clarice, his sons, Clarence and Alex, and his daughters, Victoria and Elizabeth, survive him.

His contributions to UWM’s School of Business Administration undergird its present high quality and reputation. The design of its programs in finance, executive education and graduate studies owes much to him. He set the direction of the Management Research Center as its founding director and was influential in developing the links between the School and the business community. These links are exemplified in the Business Advisory Council and the International Studies Center.

Professor Chou was a mentor to many alumni and students. He welcomed classes into his home, encouraged and challenged students and opened new horizons for them. He set the highest standards of excellence for himself in his teaching.

Dr. Chou was instrumental in the founding of three Wisconsin Chinese American organizations: the Chinese-American Civic Club (1959) to promote understanding between the Chinese American Community in Milwaukee and its neighbors; the Organization of Chinese-Americans-Wisconsin to abolish laws which discriminate against Chinese; and the Wisconsin China Council to educate the American public about China. He stood for fair play for all citizens.
He was naturalized in 1960 and in May 1985 was honored as Naturalized Citizen of the Year by the Milwaukee Bar Association's Legal Auxiliary. In accepting this honor he addressed 76 newly naturalized citizens in the Federal Court in Milwaukee, extolling American virtues and calling for an end to bigotry.

Victor always was aware of the handicaps that foreign students have in a strange environment. He went out of his way to assist Chinese students in adjusting to UWM and to Milwaukee. He also served as a focal point for Chinese faculty at UWM, making new faculty feel at home and retaining strong friendships with these faculty.

When visitors from the People's Republic of China or Taiwan visited UWM, he served as a congenial host, interpreter, and negotiator who understood the cultures and protocols of both the East & the West.

Professor Chou returned to China in 1980 to lecture during the summer at Jiao Tong University in Xian. In 1985 he served as interpreter for a 13 member UWM delegation that visited five Chinese cities & seven institutions and this culminated in working agreements with several institutions.

Victor was also active in community affairs. He inaugurated the Annual Business Outlook Luncheon of the Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce, served on the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Committee on MECCA and chaired the City's Economic Development committee. He advised the Finance Committee of Milwaukee County Board on the Medical Complex, founded the Wisconsin Business Economics Association and served as its president. He helped Governor Knowles in developing 'Wisconsin Monthly Economic Indicators,' and assisted Governor Earl in planning the state’s trade mission to China.

The elderly received his support through his work with the United Methodist Memorial Church, Methodist Manor, Methodist Health Center and Wesley Park, an independent living facility for senior citizens.

Nationally, he served as advisor to the U.S. Census Bureau, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and as economic advisor to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce during Johnson and Nixon's administrations.

Above all, Victor Chou was a gentleman in every sense of the word.

It can be truly said that our world is a lesser place with his death. His passing is grieved by family, friends and colleagues.

Russell Fenske
C. Edward Weber
MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

FOR

PROFESSOR EMERITA ELISABETH K. HOLMES 1900-1990
"Gladly wolde she lerne and gladly teche"

Elisabeth Katz Holmes, teacher and administrator in the Department of English of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee from 1956 to 1969, died on May 31, 1990, six weeks before her ninetieth birthday, at Oakwood Village in Madison, Wisconsin. Married in 1930 to John Edward Holmes, a teacher of English at North Division High School, she had been widowed since 1956.

A graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, from which she received a B.A. in journalism and M.A. in English, Professor Holmes began her teaching career in 1926 in the English Department of the Milwaukee Extension Center, which she subsequently served as chairperson. It was from this position during World War II that, having published a textbook in her subject area, she began her wartime service of directing correspondence courses for GI's enrolled in the Armed Forces Institute. In 1956 she enthusiastically joined other Extension colleagues and faculty from Wisconsin State College in forming the Department of English of the new University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Active always in the Milwaukee community, Professor Holmes served the Milwaukee School Board as member and president from 1949 to 1967. In 1964 she was appointed first director of UWM's Project Destiny, which identified intellectually gifted disadvantaged students and helped prepare them for college. She contributed frequently and generously to scholarship funds, including the Shamrock Scholarship that enables UWM students to study in Ireland. One of the many projects in which she engaged during her busy retirement years was the research and writing of The Urban Mission Anticipated, an amusing account of the origin and growth of the Milwaukee Extension Center published in 1976.

At Oakwood Village, where Professor Holmes continued the pattern of her active life in retirement, she founded and edited a residents' newspaper, served on the residents' council, and organized the planting of hundreds of small trees to assure the survival of the environment.

A spirited woman with a lively mind, keen sense of humor, and deep interest in others, Elisabeth Holmes was always caring, warm, and helpful - a senior professor who would give a friendly wink to a nervous young job candidate to break the tension of an interview. Generations of junior faculty benefited from her wise counsel and warm friendship. Among her many correspondents were scores of former students whose careers she followed long after they completed their education. To friends and associates, who will miss her sorely, she was a delightful companion.

Janet Egleson Dunleavy, Chair
Ralph Aderman
Gareth W. Dunleavy
Robert Stone