Memorial Resolution for Professor Milton Rusch

The teaching years of Milton H. Rusch, widely known Milwaukee composer, conductor and educator, encompassed the change from the Milwaukee Normal School to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. His vision and service guided the Music Department for 47 years, ten of which he served as chairman.

Dr. Rusch died July 21, 1964 in Millbrook, New York, where he was composing under a University of Wisconsin grant.

A native Milwaukeean, he was born in 1896, attended public schools, North Division High School and the Normal School. He studied piano with Jacob Moerschel and in 1918 he performed as a piano soloist with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Dr. Frederick Stock. He studied counterpoint and orchestration with Dr. Wilhelm Middelschulte, and composition with the famed composer, Arnold Schoenberg, in Vienna. He also studied vocal music, the oboe and the violoncello.

It was as an oboist that Dr. Rusch served in 1918 in the United States Navy Band under John Philip Sousa. He was a member of the Cudworth Post of the American Legion in Milwaukee.

He began work as a church organist at 13. He directed choirs and other vocal groups at North Division High School, All Saints Episcopal Cathedral, and the Grand Avenue Congregational Church, as well as UWM.

In 1927, Dr. Rusch became assistant conductor of the Young People’s Orchestra, which became The Milwaukee Civic Orchestra. He was conductor of this group from 1930 until 1960. The players were young people who were inspired to keep up musical work after graduation from high school or college.

He received an honorary degree of Doctor of Music from Carroll College, Waukesha, in 1958.

Dr. Rusch was a creative teacher as well as a creative artist, and his loss will be felt greatly by the Music Department, the University and the Community. His most fitting tribute was the premiere performance by the New York Woodwind Quintet of his "Festival Quintet for Woodwinds" as part of the summer arts festival at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee a few weeks before his death.

We extend our sympathy to his wife, Doris Rusch of Milwaukee, their three children: Mrs. George Pfau of Hopewell, New Jersey; Richard A. of Lake Forest, Illinois, and Navy Lt.Cdr. John M. of Trinidad, and his mother, Mrs. Leonora Rusch of Dousman.

Memorial Committee
Esther Jepson
Delwin Shaw
Ruth Wilson
LeRoy Daniels, Chairman
The next regular meeting of the Faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee will be convened at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 12, 1964 in FA 175, Recital Hall of the Fine Arts Building.

CALENDAR

Automatic Consent Business

I. Minutes of the meeting of October 8, 1964.

II. Memorial resolution for Professor Milton H. Rusch, who died on July 21, 1964.

III. The Administrative Committee and the Public Functions Committee wishes to announce that the first annual mid-year commencement ceremony will be held at the close of the first semester on Sunday afternoon, January 24, 1965.

IV. Report on Radio Station WUWM (Professor R. Hill).

Special Business

V. Special Order of Business. The Faculty will meet as a COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, under the direction of the University Committee to consider the following:

1. Annual report of the University Committee. (Professor M. J. Read, Chairman)

2. Question as to what committee shall be given the responsibility of working out a proposal for the way in which tenure and promotions shall be handled on the UWM Campus.

Joseph W. Kenny
Secretary of the Faculty