Memorial Resolution
Associate Professor Merlin L. Hayes (1908-1973)

Merlin Lewis Hayes, Emeritus Associate Professor of Zoology, died April 24, 1973 at the age of 64. He had served The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and one of its predecessor institutions, the former Milwaukee Center of The University of Wisconsin Extension Division, since 1935. He retired in 1970 for reasons of health, leaving behind a record of service in a wide spectrum of activities.

Merlin was born in Harmensburg, Pennsylvania on June 24, 1908. Some years later his family moved to Akron, Ohio, where his father became a Professor of Psychology at the University of Akron. After preparatory work at Akron Central High School he entered the University of Akron, receiving the B. Ed. degree in 1928 and the B. A. degree in 1929. Merlin enrolled in the Graduate School of The University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1932, where he was granted a Ph. D. in Zoology with a minor in Botany in 1935.

He joined the faculty of the Milwaukee Extension Center in 1935 as an Instructor in Botany and Zoology; thereafter, transferring full time to Zoology, he received promotion to Assistant Professor in 1939 and Associate Professor in 1946. In his youth in Akron, Merlin was a fine symphonic flutist, and his interest in music continued in Milwaukee with participation in various musical groups. During World War II he served in the United States Army from 1943 to 1945, assigned as a classification Specialist in the Adjutant General's Department. For much of this time he was stationed in the south of England, where he developed an abiding interest in the regional history. In later years he returned several times to Europe as a traveler.

With the growth of the Milwaukee Center after the war he was made Assistant to the Director for Student Affairs, and with the merger which created The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee he became an Associate Dean of the College of Letters and Science (Student Scholastic Activities). In 1967 he returned full time to the Department of Zoology, but he continued as a preprofessional counsellor in such science connected fields as medicine, dentistry and veterinary medicine.

Merlin Hayes was an effective and stimulating teacher, particularly with undergraduate students. He was always eager to share with them his vast knowledge of Invertebrate Zoology, including his special interest in Protozoology. He was vitally interested in students as individual persons, and he was remembered by them for the kindness and patience with which he listened to their problems. He also had a mind which easily mastered and retained the many rules and regulations that comprised a large share of the day-to-day work of the administrative offices over which he presided, and he was always willing to assist faculty or students in matters pertaining to academic records. He counted many genuine friends in both groups.

His service to university committees covered a very long period including particularly areas touching on registration standards,
guidance programs and undergraduate scholarships. He was honored by membership in scholarly societies such as Phi Sigma, Sigma Xi, Phi Kappa Phi, the American Microscopical Society, the American Society of Protozoologists, the American Society of Zoologists and the Society for the Study of Evolution.

He is survived by a sister, Mrs. Charlotte Thompson of Alstead, New Hampshire in addition to a niece and several nephews. The Resolutions Committee requests that a copy of this Memorial Resolution be sent to Mrs. Thompson.

Harold N. Ahlgren
Joseph G. Baier (Chairman)
Dorothy J. Ernst
Genevieve T. Meyer
Eldon D. Warner