

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

VINCENT ROGGEVEEN (1922 – 1980)

Vincent Roggeveen was born in New Jersey and grew up in several cities, but spent many of his early years in Manhattan, a place he came to love. He obtained degrees from the City College of New York and MIT in Civil Engineering, and from Harvard, where he was awarded the master's degree and doctorate in Business Administration.

Vince was broadly educated and he traveled widely. He was fluent in Dutch, German, and French. He was as comfortable in European capitals as he was in Cambridge or Menlo Park. He could keep groups of students spellbound for hours on end with fascinating personal anecdotes based on his many and varied experiences.

Vince was a broadly knowledgeable teacher in the general area of transportation. He was able to provide a rather unique synthesis of knowledge of engineering, management, and economics.

Vince's writings on the management of railroads are widely recognized as representing very important contributions to that field. Indeed, of all the professional work he did, it is his work with the railroad industry that represented one of his greatest sources of satisfaction.

Vince's teaching career included faculty appointments at both MIT and Stanford, where he held joint appointments in the Department of Civil Engineering and the Graduate School of Business. Also, he held a number of exciting posts outside of university life, and those posts contributed greatly to his effectiveness as a teacher. In 1965, for example, Vince went to Washington to serve as Director of the Office of Transportation Research in the U.S. Department of Commerce. In that position, he was responsible for a wide range of transportation research projects and for participating in the formulation of national policies on transportation.

One of his most rewarding assignments away from Stanford was his year (1969-70) in Europe as Coordinator of Logistics for American Standard Inc. His contributions to their European operations were well known and highly regarded. Indeed, he was actively courted by American Standard after his return to campus.

In the years since he became professor emeritus at Stanford, Vince Roggeveen's principal professional contributions were made in connection with his work for the Association of American Railroads (AAR) in Washington. Vince's many consultantships for the AAR put him in continual contact with the leadership of the American railway industry.

In addition to his national and international work, Vince was also widely known for his contribution to transportation planning in the San Francisco Bay Area. He was a volunteer "consultant" on many of the Greater San Francisco Chamber of Commerce's programs and served in the post of Chairman of their Transportation Resources Committee. There are many

who feel that the Chamber gained greater respect for its contribution to the Bay Area's transportation community because of Vince's vigorous spirit and keen insight.

Although a number of Vince's former students hold posts at universities and research institutes, the great majority are practicing his brand of engineering-planning in consulting firms and a host of federal, state, and local agencies. Invariably, when those students came back to visit, they showered him with appreciation for the practical insights he shared with them in the classroom. His insistence on short, tightly written assignments was something they long remembered.

We, his faculty colleagues, mourn his passing. We shall miss his wonderful anecdotes, his humanistic perspectives on engineering education, his warm friendship and his genuine concern for each of us as people.

Leonard Ortolano, Chairman
Jarir S. Dajani
Rolf Eliassen