2012 ISE Distinguished Alum passes away at 78

Arthur "Pete" Veinott '56 was an expert in operations research

The 2012 ISE Distinguished Alum for Achievements in Academia, Arthur "Pete" Veinott '56, passed away this past December. He was 78. Professionally, Veinott made contributions in the areas of lattice programming, inventory theory and dynamic programming. Throughout his academic career, Veinott was devoted to research and teaching, publishing 56 papers and guiding 27 students to their doctorates. In 1978-79, Veinott won a Guggenheim Fellowship, and in 1986, he was elected to the National Academy of Engineering (NAE), selected as a Fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS). He received the Graduate Teaching Award in 2000-01 from the Department of Management Science and Engineering at Stanford University. In 2002, Veinott was named an inaugural Fellow of INFORMS, and in 2007, he won the John von Neumann Theory Prize, which he helped to create in 1975.

During his final visit to Lehigh this past April, Veinott was the 2012 Spencer C. Schantz '55 Distinguished Lecturer, where he gave two lectures. "He was a proud and thankful Lehigh alum. He fondly remembered his time and the opportunities a scholarship gave him, and therefore Pete never forgot to give back to Lehigh. The ISE community will never forget the lectures he gave this past year." said Tamás Terlaky, ISE Department chair and the George N. and Soteria Kledaras '87 Endowed Chair Professor. Both lecture's abstracts can be found on the Spencer C. Schantz '55 Distinguished Lecture web page.

Veinott was an expert in the field of operations research, which applies advanced analytical methods to help managers make better decisions. He made major contributions to the theory of operations research and to its development as a field both at Stanford and nationally. Veinott became a professor at Stanford in 1962 and served until 2009 – a tenure of 47 years. During his career, Veinott played a key role in the creation and development of the Department of Operations Research at Stanford University, including serving as department chair from 1975 to 1985. He also helped found the journal Mathematics of Operations Research. It remains the leading journal for the publication of mathematical contributions to operations research and management science.

Key Links:
- Engineering: Distinguished Alumni: Arthur "Pete" Veinott '56
- Abstracts: 2012 Distinguished Lecture Series
- Stanford News Obituary: Arthur "Pete" Veinott '56
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