

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION
JAMES V. JUCKER
(1936-2011)

James V. Jucker, Professor Emeritus of Management Science and Engineering, passed away on May 4, 2011.

As a PhD student and as a young faculty member at Stanford, Jim was interested in many areas, but especially quantitative methods applied to finance, transportation, and plant location. In the early 1970's, Jim published, with a PhD student from Brazil, an article on the portfolio selection problem, using quadratic programming (Jucker and De Faro, *Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis*, 1975). The paper has been cited widely as one of the first stochastic approaches to the problem. As a result, one colleague from a different department invited Jim to his office to discuss some of the mathematical implications of the paper, which had caught his attention. Jim recounted that, after the first 10 minutes or so, the colleague launched into an animated discussion, much of which was over Jim's head. He smiled when he recalled that memory.

Early in his studies at Stanford (1964), Jim was teaching programming for the Industrial Engineering Department, having students write programs for the solution of problems in engineering and business. He revealed that he had thought that he would be teaching a language that he already knew. Surprised that he was to be using Algol, he reported that it was a wonderful time, since he discovered so many new things about the language and its power. Later, he continued to program and do development work for early personal computers, including Apple's Lisa.

Jim taught in Brazil (from 1968 - 1970) in a program with mostly native students from Rio de Janeiro. Jim was concerned about the students and wanted to be able to communicate with them (and his neighbors and colleagues) in Portuguese. He learned Portuguese and lectured (sometimes to humorous results) in that language. Jim taught a simulation course while in Rio and developed complex lecture notes. After returning to Stanford in 1972, he again was asked to teach simulation, which he did. One day, after class, a student who was waiting in line to ask a question turned to the notes open on the desk, to check something. After Jim completed answering a question from another, he then turned to the student who was waiting, and was quietly amused to see the bewilderment on the face of the student studying the notes. They were still in Portuguese. He said that they were still great notes, and he saw no reason to translate them back into English.

He continued to delve into many different areas, especially those where the human-design interface occurred. In the late 1970's, Jim was among the first to recognize the benefits of integrating the disciplines of industrial engineering and organizational behavior. During that time, he devoted an entire sabbatical to studying organizational behavior. Subsequently, he was integrally involved in building an organizations group in Industrial

Engineering – Engineering Management that evolved into today’s Stanford Technology Ventures Program and the Center for Work, Technology and Organization in Stanford’s Management Science & Engineering Department.

Jim earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Industrial Engineering from the Pennsylvania State University and Montana State University, respectively, in 1959 and 1961. He earned his Ph.D. from Stanford’s Industrial Engineering Department in 1968. In 1972, after teaching at the University of Massachusetts, Pontificia Universidade Catolica in Rio De Janeiro, and the Harvard Business School, Professor Jucker joined the faculty of Stanford’s Department of Industrial Engineering (later renamed Industrial Engineering and Engineering Management), where he taught until his retirement in 2002. He served as the department’s associate chair from 1982 until 1992 and as its chair from 1993-1997. He was also actively involved in the Manufacturing Systems Engineering Masters Program for the 16 years that it was jointly offered by IEEM and the Design Division of Mechanical Engineering.

He cared a great deal about the intellectual and emotional well being of all his colleagues and especially students, who loved him. He cared about the IEEM staff and treated them with so much respect and dignity. Jim had the rare ability to understand how we – the faculty – came across in the staff’s eyes.

Jim’s other contributions to Stanford include serving as Associate Dean for Student Affairs, School of Engineering; Chair of the School of Engineering Computer Committee; Chair of LOTS (Low Overhead Time-Sharing System) Advisory Board; and Vice-President of the Executive Committee of the Stanford Chapter of the AAUP. He served on the Committee on Undergraduate Studies, the Steering Committee of the Stanford Center for Organizations Research and the Tresidder Union Advisory Board.

Jim not only studied and taught about the workplace, he had plenty of jobs in real places to add spice to his teaching and the development of his research. One story he told often was from a summer job he had at a plant back East, building large air conditioners. His team built one a week. On Monday and Tuesday, they would just about finish building it; on Wednesday and Thursday, they would slowly take the assembled unit apart, and on Friday they would finish it, because they were expected to build just one a week and didn't want any rate busting to happen -- but they needed to look busy!

After his retirement, Jim's interests turned to research and writing about the history of compound interest. A highlight of his research was a visit to the Bodleian Library at Oxford, to read a book from the middle 1500's. It contained descriptions of the same types of problems we have today and mathematical solutions that we would recognize. Jim continued to work steadily on the history of both compound interest and annuities, leaving a manuscript of more than 600 pages. He was still actively editing when he died.

Professor Jucker will be fondly remembered by his colleagues and students for his widespread interests and for his gentleness, kindness, humor, and generosity.

Gerald Meier Memorial Resolution—continued...

Jim's survivors include his wife, Jo Anne Freeman, Ph.D. 1982 from Stanford; his sister and brother-in-law, Janice and Allen Horton; his daughter, Jennifer McKie; and his grandchildren, Jack and Gracie McKie.

Mr. Chairman, I have the honor, on behalf of a committee consisting of Steve Barley, Kathy Eisenhardt, Robert Sutton and myself, Warren Hausman, to lay before the Senate of the Academic Council a Resolution in the memory of the late James V. Jucker, Professor Emeritus of Industrial Engineering and Engineering Management, in the School of Engineering.