



To the Campus Community

Samuel L. Stanley, Jr., M.D., President to: Torre,F.Jason
Please respond to clondoiro

05/27/2010 12:47 PM

To All Faculty, Staff and Students:

From: Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D.
President
Frances L. Brisbane, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Social Welfare

The entire Stony Brook family was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. Robert Lefferts, Professor Emeritus, School of Social Welfare.

Bob was one of the founders of the Stony Brook University School of Social Welfare. He was a professor from 1971 until 2002, serving as Acting Dean from 1979 to 1980 and again from 1991 to 1992. He also served as Associate Dean for fifteen years, as well as Director of the Research and Consultation Center. He received his Bachelors and Master degrees of Social Work from Ohio State University, and his Ph.D. from Brandeis University's Florence Heller School for Advanced Studies in Social Policy and Management.

Dr. Lefferts' work on behalf of progressive causes began in the 1960s, when he served as a consultant on President Lyndon Johnson's Anti-Poverty Council and as a Special Research Fellow for the National Institutes of Health. In the 1970s, Bob also directed thirty-three studies of Federal, State and Local anti-poverty programs. Dr. Lefferts was asked to join the School of Social Welfare in 1971 to help build the school. In addition to the profound impact he made on the School of Social Welfare, Bob also served in many leadership positions at the University, in the community, and in the social work profession. He served as Chief Executive Officer of the 100% Drug Free Club, Inc., a federally funded safe driving demonstration program; Associate Director of the Community Council of Greater New York; consultant to the Long Island Fund for Women and Girls; and was a member of Stony Brook Surgical Innovations; the National Black Alcoholism and Addictions Council, Gynecare, Inc., Long Island Headstart, Inc., and the Virgin Islands Department of Health.

Bob authored three books including: Getting a Grant (Simon & Schuster), Basic Handbook of Grants Management (Basic Books), and Elements of Graphics (Harper & Row.) After he retired, Bob undertook a completely new career direction as a Fine Art Photographer (see <http://www.bobleffertsphotography.com> for some examples of his remarkable work).

The evolution of the School of Social Welfare and the lives of many, many social workers throughout the metropolitan area have been deeply influenced by Dr. Lefferts' sharp intellect, humor, progressive politics and affirming approach to life. Dr. Robert Lefferts leaves behind many colleagues, former students, friends, his wife, Sybil, and his children, all of whose lives have been incredibly enriched by Bob's presence. He will be missed.

The memorial/celebration for Dr. Lefferts will be held:

Saturday June 5, 2010 11a.m. to 1p.m.
Moloney's Port Jefferson Station Funeral Home
523 Route 112
Port Jefferson Station
(631) 473-3800

In lieu of flowers, donations in Bob's honor can be made to:

Concern for Independent Living, 312 Expressway Drive South, Medford,
NY 11763

Or

Donations Dept. of The Trust for Public Land at Save Maho Bay.
<http://www.TPL.org>