

**ROBERT E. TREECE**

Synopsis: The Board of Trustees of The Ohio State University expresses its sorrow regarding the death on November 9, 2020, of Robert “Bob” E. Treece, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Entomology in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. He was 93.

Professor Treece received his BS (1951) and MS (1953) in applied entomology from Ohio State's Department of Entomology, and he earned his PhD (1957) from Cornell University in entomology. Following a short period as an Extension entomologist at Rutgers University, he joined Ohio State in 1958 and served as a faculty member until his retirement in 1991. His research primarily focused on face flies, an important pest of livestock. His research helped manage these flies and improve livestock production for Ohio and the nation. He also improved management of insect pests of cereal and forage crops.

From 1973 until his retirement, Professor Treece served as the Associate Chair of the Department of Entomology, providing leadership and management of its Wooster campus activities. He served as Associate Chair through the period of the merger between the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC) and Ohio State in 1982.

Professor Treece was a strong supporter of his faculty and the land-grant mission. He was steadfast in providing the support faculty needed for success, whatever that might entail. He was an exceptionally good and active listener and was consistently thoughtful in his responses. He was an excellent mentor and supporter of junior faculty in particular, doing all he could to position them for success, including some that still have active research programs at Ohio State. For example, Professor Treece provided travel funds for a junior faculty member to join an expedition of botanists in Mexico. His generous investment directly resulted in continuous federal funding for the next 15 years. Similarly, equipment requests from junior faculty were rarely turned down by Professor Treece.

He had a soft-spoken and friendly style that was endearing to colleagues. He and his wife, Marge, were known for opening their home to host departmental gatherings, particularly around the holidays. Professor Treece was also a great advocate for graduate students. He was generous with support and was an excellent mentor that provided strong encouragement and sage advice.

Through his kind-hearted and resolute leadership, Professor Treece fostered an atmosphere of collegiality and camaraderie among all members of the department, which fostered the professional development of graduate students. Indeed, three former graduate students returned to Ohio State and continued Professor Treece's foundation of collaboration and support. Professor Treece exemplified what the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences strongly values – putting students first and working collaboratively to sustain life.

On behalf of the entire university community, the Board of Trustees expresses to the family and loved ones of Professor Robert “Bob” E. Treece its deepest sympathy and compassion for their loss. It is directed that this resolution be inscribed upon the minutes of the Board of Trustees and that a copy be tendered to his family as an expression of the board's heartfelt sympathy and appreciation.