

In memoriam - Christopher W. Helleiner

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on behalf of

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To: DAL-NOTICE@LISTS.DAL.CA <DAL-NOTICE@LISTS.DAL.CA>

In memoriam - Christopher W. Helleiner

Dr. Christopher W. Helleiner, professor emeritus, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, passed away on Tuesday, October 18, 2016.

Dr. Helleiner received his Ph.D. from the University of Toronto in 1955 ("Studies of the Structure of DNA"), which was followed by postdoctoral work at Oxford University. After serving as an assistant professor at the University of Toronto and a research scientist at the Ontario Cancer Institute, he joined the Department of Biochemistry at Dalhousie in 1963, serving as head from 1965 to 1979. Dr. Helleiner opened the Department in the Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building in 1966 and oversaw its rapid growth over the next decade.

During his long career at Dalhousie, he maintained an active research program and distinguished himself as an inspirational teacher and mentor, not only for students but also for faculty. He played an instrumental role in developing many of the classes that the department still offers today. His superb teaching abilities were recognized in 1987 when he was awarded the Dalhousie Alumni Association Award for Excellence in Teaching.

After retiring in 1995, Dr. Helleiner continued to teach students in nursing and biology until 2004. Subsequently, Dr. Helleiner was appointed to the rank of professor emeritus in recognition of his achievements and his exemplary service to the Department, Faculties of Medicine and Science, and Dalhousie University. He will be greatly missed.