

Reg Friesen 1937 - 1998

## **Reg Friesen Tribute**

This conference is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Reg Friesen in honor of his work in fostering and strengthening the growth of chemical education. Dr. Friesen was a long standing member of the Canadian Chemical Education community, being a faculty member in the Chemistry Department at the University of Waterloo from 1959-1996 and continued to associate with the university even after retirement until his death in 1998. Dr. Friesen's reputation spread around the world for his work in chemical education. He was the founding editor of CHEM 13 NEWS, a co-organizer of the first five ChemEd conferences held at Waterloo University in 1973, 1975, 1979, and 1981, the initiator and organizer of the CHEM 13 NEWS Exam started in 1971 and the Avogadro High School Chemistry Exam started in 1988. Dr Friesen was a member of the planning committee for the 10th International Conference on Chemical Education held at Waterloo in 1989. In 1996, the Reg Friesen Award for Student Papers in Chemical Education Sessions was implemented to encourage student participation in the education sessions at annual CSC and CSChE conferences. The two best papers presented by a graduate or undergraduate student at the education sessions receive this award. Dr Friesen was also the General Chair of the 15th Biennial Conference on Chemical Education held at the University of Waterloo in 1998.

In addition to his regular teaching duties, Dr. Friesen worked effectively with local student undergraduate organizations. He maintained close contact with high school chemistry teachers and organized a variety of activities at the University of Waterloo for teachers and students in the local area. He participated in a number of initiatives with the Science Teachers' Association of Ontario, and he served on Ontario Ministry of Education curriculum teams.

Speakers are chosen that reflect Dr. Friesen's belief that chemistry teachers can and do make a difference in student's lives and on the chemistry community. We hope you enjoy this presentation.

For a more detailed outline of Reg's background and contributions please see the October 1989 issue of CHEM 13 NEWS.

THE REG FRIESEN LECTURERS:

ChemEd 87 - Queen's University Hubert Alvea ChemEd 89 – Queen's University Bassam Shakhashiri ChemEd 91 - University of Wisconsin Irwin Talesnick ChemEd 93 - Butler University Alfred Bader ChemEd 95 – Old Dominion University Mary Virginia Orna ChemEd 97 - University of Minnesota Bob Becker ChemEd 99 - Sacred Heart University Steve Spangler ChemEd 01 – York University **Doug De La Matter** ChemEd 03 - Auburn University Penney Sconzo ChemEd 05 - University of British Columbia Penny Le Couteur ChemEd 07 - University of North Texas **Bette Bridges**