

It is with great sorrow that I write to tell you Dr. William A. Craig passed away on Wednesday, March 11, 2015. Dr. Craig was an extraordinary man and a shining star in the fields of infectious diseases and antimicrobial therapy. His passing leaves a large void in our lives and field.

He received his medical training at Tufts Medical School, followed internal medicine residency and an infectious diseases fellowship at the University of Wisconsin. He joined the Wisconsin faculty as a founding member of a new ID Division in 1973.

From early in his career, he was widely considered among the most knowledgeable in the world on the topic of antibiotics. This distinction reflected his encyclopedic knowledge on the discovery and development of every antibiotic developed. This is in part due to the fact that he had a personal hand in the preclinical research of nearly most antibiotics that have come to market in the last four decades.

Dr. Craig's academic career has been extraordinary. He published more than 600 original articles, monographs, chapters, and meeting abstracts. He was the first to recognize and quantify the relationship between antimicrobial dosing and treatment effect. This led to his development of an entirely new field of study, termed antimicrobial pharmacodynamics. He always considered his observations as just "intuitive". However, the application of his approaches has been instrumental in the development of dozens of antibiotics and the clinical use of his paradigms has significantly reduced mortality due to bacterial sepsis. I am unaware of any other person worldwide who has had greater recent impact on the pharmacotherapy of bacterial infections.

His prominence within the field has been acknowledged by a series of highly prestigious awards including the Garrod Medal from the British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy, the Hamao Umezawa Award from the International Society of Chemotherapy, the Bristol Award from the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA), the Sanofi-Aventis Award from the American Academy of Microbiology.

He also provided exceptional service to both the University of Wisconsin and the field of Infectious Disease. He served as Chief of Infectious Diseases and Associate Chief of Staff for Education at the Madison, VA, Program Director for the Internal Medicine Residency, was Founding President of the International Society for Anti-infective Pharmacology, Editor for the major antimicrobial journal (*Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy*), Chair of the FDA Anti-infective Advisory Committee, and Chair of the Program Committees for both the Infectious Diseases Society of America and the American Society of Microbiology.

Perhaps Dr. Craig's most enduring legacy will be the remarkable impact he had on the large number of trainees who were privileged to learn from him. He was extremely generous with his time as a research mentor. He inspired a passion for investigation, instilled a dedication to scientific integrity, and demonstrated an unwavering support of independent work by his trainees. He humbly viewed his student's success as his own. He was also happy to share both his enthusiasm for the Badgers and often prime tickets to the best sporting and cultural events in town.

Dr. Craig will be deeply missed by the UW and his international infectious diseases family. He will be remembered for his wisdom, loyalty, and humility as a colleague and friend.

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