



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

Memorial Tribute to

BERNARD (BEN) ETKIN

**University Professor Emeritus in the
University of Toronto Institute for Aerospace Studies**

October 8, 2014

Be it resolved that the Council of the Faculty of Applied Science & Engineering record with deep regret the death on June 26, 2014 of Bernard (Ben) Etkin.

Ben Etkin was a unique individual who contributed to UTIAS and the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering in countless ways. His extraordinary career of over 50 years included research, teaching, consulting, academic leadership, and the authorship of two important books. His 1959 classic *Dynamics of Flight: Stability and Control* has been used in many undergraduate courses around the world and has been translated into numerous languages. He published a more advanced treatment of the subject in 1972 entitled *Dynamics of Atmospheric Flight*, which also became highly influential.

Ben joined the University of Toronto in 1942, helped Gordon Patterson found UTIAS in 1950, and served as Dean of the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering from 1973-1979. He regularly came to UTIAS to give out the Etkin Medal, awarded annually to the top MSc student, right up until his death in June 2014.

As a person, Ben was characterized by civility, gentleness, humility, generosity, and of course a piercing intellect. He had a unique ability to break an engineering problem down through judiciously applied approximations to the point where it could be solved. Among his innumerable accomplishments and contributions, Ben's mentorship stands out. He was absolutely revered by the many UTIAS professors that he mentored.

UTIAS, the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering, and the University of Toronto will be forever grateful for the contributions and dedication of Ben Etkin.

Be it further resolved that a record of his service be inscribed in the minutes of this Council, and that a copy be sent to his family as an expression of the respect and gratitude of the members of Council.

Prepared by Professor David Zingg