



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

Memorial Tribute to

BANGALORE RAMASWAMI

Professor Emeritus
Materials Science and Engineering

December 18, 2018

Be it resolved –

THAT the Council of the Faculty of Applied Science & Engineering record with deep regret the death on November 29, 2018 of Professor Bangalore Ramaswami.

Bangalore Ramaswami's early education was in Bangalore, India. He received a B.Sc. Honours Degree in Physics from Mysore University, followed by a D.I.I.Sc. in Metallurgy from the Indian Institute of Science. At that point, he earned a scholarship to attend Harvard University. He obtained both an M.A. and a Ph.D. in Applied Physics from Harvard University.

In 1963, he joined the Dept. of Metallurgy and Materials Science at the University of Toronto as a faculty member. His research was on the mechanical properties of metal alloys, more specifically the fracture and fatigue of copper based alloys and other systems.

Professor Ramaswami was a great help to many of our students over many years and to the Department, particularly during the years he served as Associate Chair. He was a lovely man and will always be remembered with great fondness by all who knew him.

Students who were privileged to have Professor Ramaswami as an instructor and graduate research supervisor remember him as one of the best lecturers and role models in MSE. His lectures were crystal clear, incredibly well structured with a perfect sense of timing in delivery. He taught graduate students how to self-critique their own data, to weigh various methodologies and interpretations, and how to write technically and communicate the salient points to others. Present day students in MSE continue to benefit from the principles he so well entrained in former students who went on to become faculty members in the department.

Professor Ramaswami was always a quiet, well-spoken professional... but his silence spoke volumes. He never had to raise his voice to make a point, he always remained collegial, but when he spoke, he commanded the attention and respect of all those around him. His beliefs in Buddhism influenced the career paths of others, as he often encouraged and motivated students

to channel their research for the good of all on the planet before environmental engineering and sustainable development became commonplace in our curricula.

Professor Ramaswami's knowledge was so deep and widespread and his attention to detail was second to none. Evidence of this can be found in virtually all of his books donated to members of MSE upon his retirement. Professor Ramaswami found and corrected seemingly every error in the equations or wording, from cover to cover in all books, including classic texts written by giants of science and engineering such as Gibbs, Fermi and Schrodinger, to name a few.

During his career, Professor Ramaswami was recognized by being named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), and of the American Society for Metals (ASM International).

He retired from the University in 1994.

Be it further resolved –

THAT this tribute to Professor Ramaswami be inscribed in the minutes of this Council meeting, and that copies be sent to his family as an expression of the respect and gratitude of the members of this Council.

Prepared by Jun Nogami and Doug Perovic