



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

Memorial Tribute to

Samuel Sandler

Professor Emeritus
Department of Chemical Engineering
and Applied Chemistry

October 18, 2021

Be it resolved –

THAT the Council of the Faculty of Applied Science & Engineering record with sincere regret the death on April 10, 2021 of Professor Emeritus Samuel Sandler at the age of 100.

Professor Sandler received his BAsC in Chemical Engineering from the University of Toronto in 1944. His first job after his BAsC was at a munitions plant, Nitro-Quebec, in Valleyfield, Quebec. He then returned to the University of Toronto to get his MASc working on hydrogen engines for the Defense Research Board. He joined the Department of Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry at the University of Toronto as an Assistant Professor in 1958. He retired in 1985.

Professor Sandler was a highly respected scholar and educator in the Department of Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry. His research included combustion and detonation of hydrocarbons and the development of advanced analytical techniques for the analysis of chemicals in air, water, soil and body volatiles. In the late 1970's he was one of several faculty in the Department that developed a new postgraduate program in occupational health and safety with significant support from the Ontario Ministry of Labour. This program was part of a larger initiative with the Department of Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry and the Department of Preventive Medicine and Biostatistics in the Faculty of Medicine in the areas of occupational health engineering, safety engineering, occupational health and occupational medicine. He was highly sought out for his expertise, including expert testimony on the reliability of the breathalyzer test for impaired driving.

Professor Sandler was an outstanding teacher, covering foundational courses ranging from first year chemistry to advanced graduate courses in instrumental analysis. He had a long-time devotion to first year chemistry and also supervised a two-week preterm boot camp on titration for second year chemical engineering students. He had an active interest in supporting each student's education and broader career interests, including actively engaging with prospective students in high school.

Though he retired over 35 years ago, Professor Sandler kept in touch with the Department on a regular basis and was well known and respected by our entire community. He attended annual dinners and holiday lunches with our faculty including a virtual lunch in December of 2020, just three weeks before he turned 100. His energy and enthusiasm for life and for science and engineering were always evident at every one of these events, where he would regularly take the stage and tell a joke and provide words of wisdom. A beloved husband of 72 years, he had three children, seven grandchildren, and four great grandchildren.

Professor Sandler was an inspiring educator and engineer who has left a lasting impact on our Department, Faculty and the University.

Be it further resolved –

THAT this tribute to Professor Emeritus Samuel Sandler 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 Council.