

Memorial Resolution Oran Allan Pringle III

Oran Allan Pringle III was born on April 26, 1948 in Madison, Wisconsin. He attended West High School with Kathleen Hartung whom he would later marry. At school they shared friends, but never spoke with one another. Allan attended the University of Missouri-Columbia receiving his B.S. and M.S. in Physics in 1970 and 1971. From 1971-1974 Allan served his commission in the U.S. Navy where he was a shipboard communications officer. Following his service, Allan returned to the University of Missouri-Columbia where he completed his Ph.D. with Sam Werner in 1981. Allan worked as a Research Associate in the Solid State Division at Oak Ridge National Laboratory from 1982-1985 before joining the faculty at then UMR in 1985. He rose through the faculty ranks at UMR becoming an Associate Professor in 1991, Professor in 1998, and Curators' Teaching Professor in 2005.

Allan's research expertise was in neutron scattering and Mossbauer spectroscopy of hard magnetic materials. He published over 75 peer-reviewed journal articles and one book chapter. He supervised seven Ph.D. students and two M.S. students. In addition, he was an outstanding educator and a leader in science outreach to K-12 teachers and students. Allan Pringle retired in 2017. During his academic career Allan was the recipient of seven Faculty Excellence Awards, four Outstanding Teacher Awards, two UMR College of Arts & Sciences Excellence in Teaching Awards, the 2005 Distinguished Service Award from the Science Teachers of Missouri, and the 2006 Governor's Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Allan Pringle had a life-long interest in education, and he was an outstanding educator. For many years, he taught a large-enrollment Engineering Physics course that almost all science and engineering majors in Rolla take. He was always dedicated to the students, approachable, and kind. Allan developed a number of courses while at Missouri S&T including an algebra-based physics sequence, and "Physics For Science Teachers" for the Master of Science for Teachers program in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, and Geosciences & Geological and Petroleum Engineering.

Allan's true passion was outreach to science students and teachers in the state of Missouri. He spent tremendous amounts of time assisting regional science and math teachers in bringing excitement about science into the classroom, and running workshops and demonstrations for students of all levels to increase scientific understanding and excitement about math and science. In his Curators' Distinguished Teaching Professor nomination it was noted that as a young professor "in spite of my repeated warnings Dr. Pringle possibly did more service to the department and the university than the rest of the physics department combined." In 1989, Allan started science development programs for K-12 science teachers. Starting in 2004, Allan, with colleagues from several departments across campus ran Science Education and Quantitative Literacy Workshops for regional K-12 math and science teachers. All of this work was supported through the Missouri Coordinating Board of Higher Education. This work involved summer institutes for training science educators from over two dozen regional districts in Missouri about half of which were "high need" districts. These programs directly impacted

over 2000 students annually. In addition, Allan was the faculty advisor for the Society of Physics Students for thirty years. He organized the regional Science Olympiads held at Missouri S&T annually for many years and was on the Science Olympiad Board of Directors, ran the Problem Solving Workshop during orientation week for many years helping to improve retention at Missouri S&T, and organized Physics Day at Worlds of Fun amusement park for several years. For decades, Allan made between 30-40 visits annually to local schools where he did science demonstrations. His liquid nitrogen demonstrations were legendary and were responsible for exciting many thousands of students in Missouri about science.

On April 15, 2010 Allan participated in the "Last Lecture" series at Missouri S&T. In his lecture, which included his liquid nitrogen demonstration, he revealed that he went into physics because his two best friends in high school said that is what they planned to study. However, he said that he knew he would be a scientist based on a childhood incident where he observed a light in one of the rooms of his house and had in his hand a full water gun. "I didn't even know what a hypothesis was, but I knew if I squirt this squirt gun at this light something exciting will happen."

Allan lost his battle with cancer on March 24, 2017. He is survived by his mother Billie Gene (Hansen) Pringle, wife Kathleen (Hartung) Pringle, stepson John DiRienzo, daughter Erin Stovall and her husband Logan and son Gabriel Allan, and son Brian Pringle and his wife Red, and son Steve Pringle.

We request that this memorial resolution be incorporated into the official minutes of the Missouri University of Science & Technology General Faculty Meeting of May 1, 2018, and that a copy be sent to Dr. Pringle's wife Kathy.

Respectfully submitted by the faculty of the Physics Department and by Dr. V.A. Samaranayake.



Dan Waddill



V.A. Samaranayake