Former Agricultural Economics Faculty

Julian Hutchinson Atkinson (1924-2013)

Dr. Atkinson came to Purdue as a graduate student in February 1951 and has been associated with the University ever since. Professor Atkinson's career included the traditional land grant college activities of research, teaching, and extension as well as work in international development. His research and extension work included such diverse areas as farm mutual insurance company management, contract hog production, agricultural banking, farm management, outlook, land values and land tenure. He has taught farm management, farm finance, farm appraisal, international development, macroeconomics and, in Portuguese, farm finance, land economics and research methods.

Nearly 20% of Atkinson's long tenure was away from campus and included work with the Farm Credit Administration, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the University of Florida and Auburn University. He also completed assignments in Portugal, Guinea-Bissau, Brazil and several other Latin American countries.

Dr. Atkinson served for over a decade as secretary-treasurer of the Indiana Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers. He was director of the School of Farm Mutual Insurance Company Management and the Purdue Agricultural Banking School, and also coordinator of the Purdue Agricultural Bankers Clinic, annual Production Credit Association seminar and various other extension programs. At the time of his retirement, he was best known for his work in land values and leasing arrangements.

Upon his retirement, Dr. Atkinson paid tribute to four living persons who had a great influence on his education and his professional life: Earl L. Butz, Lowell S. Hardin, Howard G. Diesslin and Richard L. Kohls. In addition, the friendship of these men and their wives, Mary Emma, Mary, Mickey and Irene has been much appreciated by Estelle and Jake.

Estelle, who died in 1993, and Jake are parents of Cynthia, Thomas and Virginia. Their grandchildren are Estelle and Susan Atkinson.