

## OBITUARY



MAURICE E. TROYER  
1903 - 1997

On December 19, 1997 Dr. Maurice E. Troyer, first Vice President for Academic Affairs at International Christian University, passed away in Springhouse, Pennsylvania. Dr. Troyer, Emeritus Professor of ICU, attended the Gotemba Conference in 1949 at which ICU was founded, and was largely responsible for the liberal arts education that has distinguished the University from other universities in Japan from its inception.

In May, 1961 Professor Troyer, speaking at a conference of the United Board For Christian Higher Education in Asia held at Yonsei University in Korea, made the following comments:

What then is the role of the Christian Scholar? Add to the usual goals of secular education including physical and mental health, knowledge and skill, social competence and emotional stability, attitudes, appreciations and ability to think: to help each individual to develop concepts of reality in which he has confidence, and a system of values that will serve for him as goals to reach for and criteria to live by; then add in service to God and man in the spirit of Christ. These last 11 words give the character to Christian education that defines the unique role of the Christian scholar.

In every respect Maurice Troyer was a Christian scholar whose devotion to his students, colleagues, and discipline set an example for anyone aspiring to understand the goals and purposes of the International Christian University that he did so much to create and nurture.

Born in August, 1903 in Normal, Illinois, Maurice Troyer graduated from Bluffton College with a BA. Here it was that he met his wife, Arvilla 'Billie' Troyer, who was to be his constant companion and associate until her passing in July, 1997. After service at his alma mater, where he was an assistant professor and dean of men, Dr. Troyer moved to the Ohio State University where

he received both MA and PhD degrees, and where he also taught. From 1936 through 1950 he rose from assistant professor to professor at Syracuse University, also working closely with the American Council on Education during 1940- 1943. While at Syracuse Dr. Troyer held various posts, including directorship of the university self-study in 1947- 1948.

In 1949 the president of Syracuse, Dr. William P. Tolley, recommended Dr. Troyer to the organizing committee for the establishment of ICU for his knowledge and experience in curricular issues. It was thus that Dr. Troyer accompanied the delegation from the United States that attended the Gotemba Conference in the spring of 1949 at which the International Christian University was founded. Subsequently Dr. Tolley made it possible for Dr. Troyer to take an indefinite leave of absence from Syracuse to come to Japan to become ICU's first Vice President for academic affairs, a post that he held from November, 1951 until March, 1962. Dr. Troyer remained at ICU until August, 1966 as Professor of Educational Psychology, before returning to resume his position at Syracuse. On retirement from the latter, Dr. Troyer was Guest Professor at ICU from April through November, 1974. Dr. and Mrs. Troyer were members of the ICU Church for many years.

Among his many honors, Dr. Troyer received honorary doctorates from both Bluffton College ( 1961) and ICU ( 1966), and received the Third Class Order of the Sacred Treasure from the Emperor of Japan. At ICU Dr. and Mrs. Troyer are remembered by their colleagues, friends and former students through the Arvilla and Maurice Troyer Prize which is awarded annually to a graduating senior in the Division of Education.

Following the memorial Service on January 10 at Gwynedd Estates in Springhouse, Pennsylvania, a Memorial Service is scheduled to be held at 14:30 on Sunday, March 22 at the ICU Church.

