

Vladimir L. Stoikov

December 25, 1929 — August 2, 1976

On this occasion, the characterization of a death as untimely is more than a ritualistic acknowledgment of the inevitable. At the age of forty-seven, the prospects before Vladimir Stoikov appeared exceptionally bright. His recent marriage to Gabrielle, a charming and talented woman, was providing strong support in his professional role as well as meeting his emotional and affective needs. An infant son, Sasha, was opening new perspectives and relationships for an adoring father. Painting and sketching were developing a heretofore latent talent, from which Vladimir derived great satisfaction. His scholarly reputation and competence in the field of labor economics, already assured, was continuing to grow.

Vladimir was born in Sofia, Bulgaria, and received his early education there and in Switzerland. All of his higher education, however, took place in the United States. In 1953 he received the B.S. degree, with honors, in the field of chemical engineering from the University of Illinois, and was admitted to honorary societies in both chemistry and engineering. Although these fields of study were to influence his early interests as an economist, they didn't hold him very long. In 1956 the University of Wisconsin awarded him the M.S. degree in economics, and in 1960 he received the Ph.D. in economics from The Johns Hopkins University. A succession of research and teaching assignments followed: Smith College, Princeton University, Wesleyan University, Queens College of the City University of New York, and the University of Illinois.

Vladimir's first appointment at Cornell was in 1968 as visiting professor on leave from his post at the Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations, University of Illinois. A permanent appointment to the rank of associate professor in the School of Industrial and Labor Relations followed, beginning in 1969. Because of his special interest in the economics of education and applications of human capital theory, he served as a joint member of the Department of Labor Economics and Income Security and of the Department of Manpower Studies.

As both teacher and scholar, Vladimir's reach was wide and varied. His scholarly output almost invariably appeared in leading journals in the fields of general economics and industrial relations, and his teaching spanned major segments of both theoretical and applied economics. Vladimir also had a strong interest in programmatic and policy research. At various times this interest led him to serve as consultant to such agencies as the International Labour Organization and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. At his death he was on

leave as a visiting fellow at the International Institute of Management in West Berlin, assisting in the development and strengthening of its program of labor market studies.

Vladimir Stoikov combined a strong and disciplined intellect with an urbane and cultured personal life style. He left a gap in our ranks that will be exceptionally difficult, if not impossible, to fill.

Robert L. Aronson, M. Gardner Clark, Walter Galenson