

Malcolm Sandell Burton

March 26, 1918 — December 22, 1997

Malcolm Sandell Burton was born in Boston, Massachusetts, son of Reverend Charles Jewell and Ethel Sandell Burton. He graduated in 1940 from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Mechanical Engineering, and in 1943 from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Metallurgy with B.S. and M.S. degrees respectively. After a short stay at M.I.T., Malcolm Burton joined Cornell as an Assistant Professor in the School of Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering in 1946. He retired from Cornell in 1983 where he spent nearly his entire professional career.

In the early time, Malcolm Burton worked closely with Professor George V. Smith in the development of the Metallurgical Engineering Program, which was a part of the School of Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering. Professor Smith was in charge of the Metallurgical Program. They did research on iron and its alloys. Malcolm Burton's specialty was in metallurgical processing including casting, welding, and other joining processes, which was also the subject where he did his teaching. His teaching effort resulted in a textbook, *Applied Metallurgy for Engineers*, published by McGraw-Hill in 1956.

In the late 1950s, the Metallurgical Program began to expand as a result of a large governmental grant to develop Materials Science at Cornell. Funding was also available from the donation of Mr. Francis Norwood Bard (Cornell, 1904) to build a new and separate building for Metallurgical Engineering. Malcolm Burton played an important role in the planning and building of the new building, named Bard Hall. The build-up of Materials Science at Cornell resulted in the reorganization of academic programs. The Metallurgical Program merged into a new Department in Engineering Physics and Materials Science in 1964 from which another new Department in Materials Science and Engineering was created in 1965. During the transition period, Malcolm Burton was active in administrative matters first as the Assistant Director of the Department of Engineering Physics and Materials Science and later as the Acting Director of the new Department of Materials Science and Engineering. It was an exciting time in Materials Science at Cornell. New ideas and programs were created both in research and in teaching. Malcolm Burton's quiet and calm personality was effective amid all the excitement.

In the years following, Malcolm Burton shifted his interests to administrative activities. He joined the office of the Dean of Engineering as an Associate Dean in charge of undergraduate affairs. At that time, the first two years of an engineering undergraduate was a common curriculum administered by the College of Engineering. In his

position, Malcolm Burton was able to help a number of engineering undergraduates in their beginning years at Cornell.

Upon his retirement, he moved to California where he designed and built a new home.

Malcolm Burton will be remembered as a dedicated teacher and able administrator who served Cornell well.

Arthur Ruoff, Pete Scala, Che-Yu Li