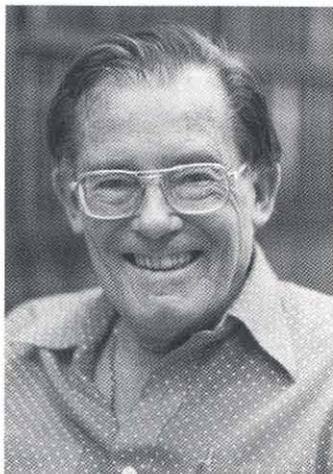


OBITUARIES



James F. Bonner
1910 – 1996

James Bonner, PhD '34, professor of biology, emeritus, at Caltech and a member of the National Academy of Sciences, died September 13, at the age of 86. He had been a Caltech faculty member for 60 years.

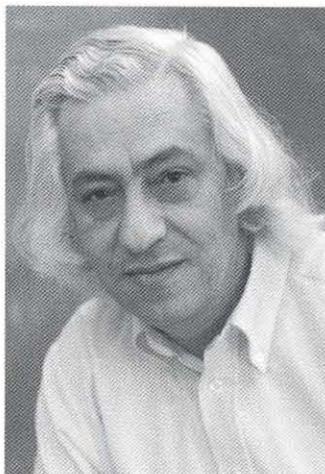
Born in Ansley, Nebraska, Bonner earned a BA in chemistry and mathematics from the University of Utah in 1931. After completing his Caltech PhD, he spent a year in Germany and Switzerland as a National Research Council Fellow. He came back to Caltech in 1935 as a research assistant, and received his faculty appointment the next year. He was named professor of biology in 1946.

Bonner's research interests included plant biochemistry and the genetic engineering of agricultural crop plants. He was the inventor of a novel way to increase the yield of rubber trees—which led to the approximate doubling of rubber yield per acre per year in Malaysia—as well as co-inventor of the method used by most Florida citrus growers for the mechanical harvesting of oranges.

His research covered almost every facet of plant biology, from the study of plant growth hormones and the discovery of new plant hormones, to the biochemistry of respiration, photosynthesis, rubber biosyntheses, and chemical ecology. For the last quarter-century of his career, he concentrated on the isolation and study of the genetic

material, its chemistry and packaging into chromosomes, and the control of gene expression in plants and animals. Bonner was also active in discussions concerning the future of industrial civilization, particularly with regard to food, population, and the outdoors.

An avid member of several alpine and skiing organizations, Bonner climbed in the Himalayas and served as a ski patrolman for the National Ski Patrol System.



Ricardo Gomez
1930 – 1996

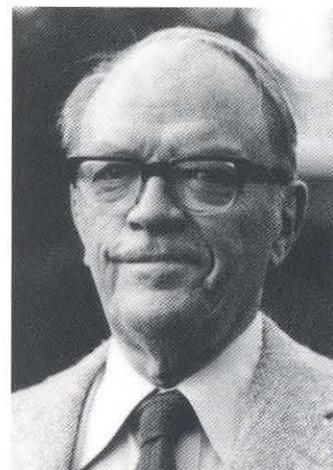
Ricardo Gomez, professor of physics, emeritus, died unexpectedly on October 14 in Pasadena. He was 66.

A native of Bogota, Colombia, Gomez came to Caltech as a research fellow in 1956, after earning his PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (as well as his bachelor's degree in 1953). He was appointed senior research fellow in 1959, became associate professor in 1971, and was named professor in 1977. He retired in July.

An experimental particle physicist, Gomez in his early years used Caltech's 1 GeV electron synchrotron for photoproduction studies at what was then the high-energy frontier of particle

physics. He later helped establish the new style of doing particle physics experiments at remote accelerators, contributing to Caltech-led experiments at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, the Brookhaven National Laboratory, and Fermilab.

His research included studies of the photodisintegration of the deuteron, the photoproduction of various mesons from nucleons, and the interactions of high-energy mesons with nucleons. He also searched for fractionally charged particles, made experimental tests of quantum chromodynamics, and investigated certain meson decay modes of special interest. Gomez was also noted around campus for his commitment to undergraduate teaching.



Hallett D. Smith
1907 – 1996

Hallett Smith, Caltech professor of English, emeritus, died of pneumonia on his 89th birthday, August 15. One of this century's most eminent Elizabethan scholars, Smith served as chairman of the Institute's Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences from 1949 to 1970.

Smith came to Caltech in 1949 as professor of English.

Faculty File

Smith, continued

In 1970 he was made a research associate of the Huntington Library and was named professor emeritus at Caltech in 1975.

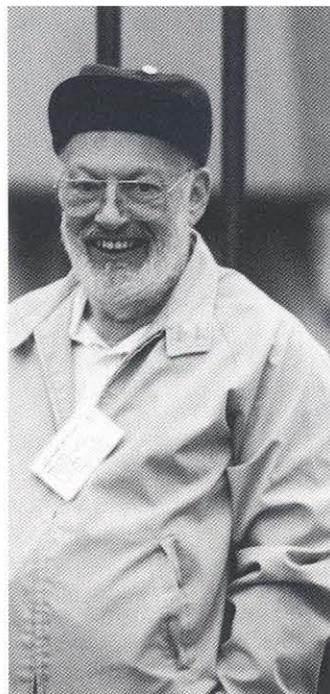
Smith's principal area of research was 16th- and 17th-century English literature, and he was the author of many books and articles on Elizabethan literature with a special emphasis on Shakespeare. In 1952 he published *Elizabethan Poetry: A Study in Conventions, Meaning, and Expression*, a work considered one of the most authoritative studies on the subject. His later works included *Shakespeare's Romances: A Study of Some Ways of the Imagination* and *The Tension of the Lyre: Poetry in Shakespeare's Sonnets*.

Smith was an editor of *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*, to this day the most widely used and influential anthology of literature in American colleges and universities. He was also the editor of the "Romances" and "Poems" chapters of *The Riverside Shakespeare*.

A graduate of the University of Colorado, he received his PhD from Yale University in 1934. He was a member of the English Department at Williams College from 1931 to 1949, and had been a visiting professor of English at Columbia University and at the Claremont Graduate School. In 1947-48 he was a Guggenheim Fellow, and in 1952 he won the Chapbook Prize of the Poetry Society of America.

Jean-Paul Revel, the Albert B. Ruddock Professor of Biology, has been appointed to a three-year term as dean of students, succeeding Rod Kiewiet, professor of political science, who had served in the post for four years.

Born in France, Revel graduated from the University of Strasbourg in 1949 and earned his PhD at Harvard in biochemistry in



Jean-Paul Revel waits to embark for Catalina Island and his first Freshman Camp as Dean of Students.

1957. After a number of years on the faculty of Harvard Medical School and Cornell Medical School, he came to Caltech as professor of biology in 1971. He was named the Ruddock Professor in 1978.

Revel has long been revered for his warm and enthusiastic commitment to undergraduates. A popular teacher, he is a recipient of ASCIT's teaching award and can attract record numbers of students to 8 a.m. classes. He has served as pre-med adviser and as chair of the Biology Under-

graduate Advisory Council, and is currently developing the new core course Biology 1, which he and Scott Fraser, the Anna L. Rosen Professor of Biology, will teach in the spring term.

In his research in cell biology, Revel studies cell-to-cell communication, electron microscopy, and scanned probe microscopy. Many of his fine electron micrographs have graced the pages of *E&S*, and he contributed an article, "Cell Biology of Heart Disease," in the January 1987 issue.

HELP WANTED

President Everhart will be stepping down in the fall of 1997, after a decade at Caltech's helm. As part of the search for his replacement, the faculty advisory committee (chaired by Kip Thorne, the Richard P. Feynman Professor of Theoretical Physics) is seeking "outstanding nominees wherever they may be found, and thus would appreciate your calling our attention to highly qualified individuals of either gender and any ethnic background, and from industry, government, and foundations, as well as academia." All members of the Caltech community—faculty, students, staff, administration, JPL, alumni, associates, and friends of Caltech—are encouraged to submit nominations and suggestions about the search process (for example, qualities the new president should have, or issues the incoming president will have to address that should influence the selection process). All input will be kept strictly confidential.

Nominations and supporting material (the committee asks that you also provide a paragraph explaining why your nomination would be an outstanding president; a curriculum vitae, or a suggestion as to where one could be obtained; and a list of people who might provide insightful evaluations of the nominee) should be submitted to:

nominations@pressearch.caltech.edu

Other suggestions should go to:

suggestions@pressearch.caltech.edu

If you wish to encrypt your e-mail via PGP, you can obtain the PGP public key by sending an e-mail (whose contents will be ignored) to PGPKey@pressearch.caltech.edu. You can also send regular mail to:

Presidential Search Committee
Caltech
P. O. Box 60070
Pasadena, CA 91116

The committee can be reached by fax at 818-584-7198.

You can help produce Nobel Laureates like Ed Lewis with financial support of Caltech through our Charitable Trust Program. Receive income for life and a tax deduction, have your money professionally managed, and leave a lasting legacy at the Institute.



GIVING BACK

When Ed Lewis, Caltech's Thomas Hunt Morgan Professor of Biology, Emeritus, won the Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine last year for his work on the genetic control of early embryonic development, there were celebrations, interviews, toasts, and telegrams. Then the "hard reality" set in. What would he do with his check, after splitting the cash award with two other scientists with whom he shared the prize?

You'd think that the first thing someone would do with a windfall would be to splurge and buy something that he always wanted. But Lewis, a modest, energetic man who finds time daily to swim, play the flute, and devote hours to his research, says he already

has everything he needs.

The bottom line is that he wanted to do something for Caltech, where he has spent most of his career. And he especially wanted to help students. So he used his prize money to establish a trust with Caltech that will go toward undergraduate scholarships when he dies.

While creating the trust will reduce his taxes on the prize, Lewis says, "That's not the main reason I'm doing this. Caltech has provided the

kind of excellent environment that has allowed me to carry out the research that has led to the award of the prize. Also, it has always been rewarding to see how many of our students have gone on to become world leaders in their fields," said Lewis. "In these days of high tuition costs, scholarships are needed more and more."

If you'd like more information about these and other ways to benefit yourself and Caltech, contact us:

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