

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Vancouver Senate Tributes Committee
c/o
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September 5, 2008

To: Vancouver Senate

From: Tributes Committee

Subject: Memorial Minutes

The Tributes Committee has prepared memorial minutes for the following individual:

William Lancelot Holland

Motion: *That Senate approve the Memorial Minute for William Lancelot Holland, that it be entered into the Minutes of Senate and a copy be sent to the family of the deceased.*

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sally Thorne, Chair
Senate Tributes Committee



William Lancelot Holland

William Lancelot Holland laid the foundations for the study of Asia at the University of British Columbia. He founded the Department of Asian Studies at UBC in 1961 and his leadership and dedication established UBC as a leading centre for research on Asia. The foundation built during his tenure has led to a wide recognition of the Department of Asian Studies as one of the finest of its kind in North America.

He was the chief architect and coordinator of the research program for the Institute of Pacific Relations, initiating ground-breaking studies in economics, social and political history. In the difficult years of the depression and war, he established a tradition of independent, critical scholarship on current issues in Asia. The Institute's publications constituted the major resource when Washington, at the outbreak of World War II, sought information on contemporary East Asia.

Dr. Holland developed teaching and research at UBC, while carrying the responsibility as editor of *Pacific Affairs*, the leading journal on contemporary Asia. At the Department of Asian Studies, he attracted internationally distinguished Asian scholars as teachers, researchers and visiting lecturers.

Dr. Holland served the UBC Senate as a representative of the Joint Faculties from 1967 to 1969 and in 1989, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws from the University. In 2003, he established the William L. Holland Prize for the best article published each year in *Pacific Affairs*.

Hailed as "Canada's Dean of Asian Studies," Dr. Holland influenced a generation of Canadian students. His qualities of integrity, respect and generosity won Bill Holland the affection and admiration of the University community and assures an affectionate place in the memories of his colleagues, students and all those who have been fortunate beneficiaries of his ethical, intellectual and administrative legacies.