

Dear Colleagues,

It is with great sadness that I write to inform you that Leonard Herzenberg, PhD, emeritus professor of genetics at the School of Medicine, died yesterday morning, October 27, at Stanford Hospital. His wife, Leonore (Lee), and their dog, Gigi, were by his side. He had been hospitalized following a severe stroke on October 8.

Len, 81, was a member of the Stanford Medicine community for more than 50 years. He was a kind, thoughtful and just person eager to share scientific discoveries and opportunities not only with friends and colleagues, but also with disadvantaged youth in our local community. He will be greatly missed.

Len was honored with the Kyoto Prize in 2006 for his role in the development of the first fluorescence-activated cell sorter, or FACS, during the late 1960s and early 1970s. The technology made possible the birth of modern immunology, stem cell research and proteomics, and significantly advanced the clinical care of people with diseases such as cancer and HIV infection. In addition to the Kyoto Prize, he also received the prestigious Novartis Prize in Immunology in 2004.

Len and Lee, a professor of genetics at the School of Medicine, have collaborated since Len entered graduate school at the California Institute of Technology in 1952. After completing a postdoctoral fellowship with Nobel laureate Jacques Monod at the Pasteur Institute in Paris, Len served as a public health service officer at the National Institutes of Health, in the laboratory of eminent pathologist and mammalian cell biologist Harry Eagle, from 1957 until 1959, when he was recruited to Stanford.

Len's scientific accomplishments are prodigious. But it was his commitment to helping others that will be his enduring legacy. Together Len and Lee worked to bring local high school students from East Palo Alto to the Stanford campus to learn about medicine and

biology.

In keeping with his nature, Len donated the monetary award that accompanies the Kyoto Prize to A Better World Fund, a nonprofit endowment that supports charities around the world working to improve health, human rights and education. Please join with me in offering sincerest condolences to Lee and their children Berri, Jana, Michael and Eric, as well as to the members of the Herzenberg laboratories and to all whose lives and careers were touched by Len's generosity and influence.

Plans for a memorial service will be announced at a later date.

Sincerely,  
Lloyd Minor

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