

In Memorium

Lawrence J. Ackerman



Lawrence J. Ackerman, a great name in insurance education, died June 20, 1994, at the age of 85.

Professor Ackerman, a native of New York City, received his undergraduate degree at Lehigh University, his law degree from Columbia University, and a masters degree from the University of Pennsylvania. After a brief period of practicing law, he taught at the Wharton School and at Rutgers University. He became the founding dean of the University of Connecticut School of Business Administration in 1941 while in his early thirties. He served as dean and as professor of insurance from 1941 to 1963.

He maintained great interest in the affairs of the American Association of University Teachers of Insurance (and subsequently the American Risk and Insurance Association). He was the last two-term president of our professional association.

Professor Ackerman was a magnificent teacher and scholar. For years, he was a vital personality in the Connecticut business community. He consulted on a national basis. He was a visiting professor at Harvard University and Stanford University. He served on a number of boards of insurance companies and other business enterprises. Upon retirement from the University of Connecticut, he became President and CEO of the Norwich Savings Society in Norwich, Connecticut. He concluded his career with a five-year stay at the University of Hartford, where he was a major force in the development of a new insurance/actuarial program.

Impressive as this is, it is secondary to Larry Ackerman the individual. It is impossible to quantify the impact of this person on the lives of countless individuals. He was the essence of the giver. His primary traits were kindness and concern for the well-being of others. He was truly a giant of a person and we have lost one of our very distinguished colleagues.

David A. Ivry
Emeritus Professor
University of Connecticut
University of Hartford

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