

**RESOLUTION CONFERRING FACULTY EMERITUS STATUS UPON
DR. DAVID A. ZEGERS**

WHEREAS Dr. David A. Zegers served as a faculty member of the Biology Department of Millersville University since 1977, a total of 34 years; and

WHEREAS Professor Zegers was a dedicated and devoted teacher, who was able to share with his students his passion for biology, in general, and zoology, ornithology, mammalogy and ecology in particular, who taught a wide range of courses covering General Biology, Concepts of Zoology, Conservation Biology, Ornithology, Mammalogy, Principles of Ecology, Birds in the Environment, Mammals in the Environment, among others and reached out to PASSHE students across the State of Pennsylvania and beyond by contributing valuable courses at the Marine Science Consortium, such as Mammals of Coastal Ecosystems, Marine Ornithology and Behavioral Ecology; and

WHEREAS Professor Zegers thoroughly supported his many students, from non-science majors to Biology majors, and taught them to use a creative approach to scientific inquiry and to think critically in all areas of their lives and work; and

WHEREAS Professor Zegers encouraged Biology majors to participate in research so that they could experience the excitement, challenge and delight of scientific endeavors and he supervised numerous students over the years in independent study projects; and

WHEREAS Professor Zegers was the quintessential mentor to his students, not only providing insight and guidance to students working in his lab but also maintaining strong relationships with many after they left MU for graduate school and beyond; and

WHEREAS Professor Zegers was an invaluable mentor to junior faculty, serving on promotion committees, providing guidance with pedagogy, serving as a sounding board to resolve conflicts, helping junior faculty to improve as teachers, departmental citizens and team players - testimony to his dedication to the University, the Department and his colleagues; and

WHEREAS Dr. Zegers has been an outstanding scholar, having published in two major areas of ecology: Mammalogy and Ornithology and, in turn, having served as an exemplary citizen in these disciplines as an Associate Editor of the Mammalian Species series of the American Society of Mammalogists since 2008, as a referee for a variety of granting agencies, journals and professional organizations, such as the National Science Foundation, the Journal of Mammalogy, Condor, the Journal of the Pennsylvania Academy of Science, the Canadian Journal of Zoology, Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology, the Journal of Field Ornithology, Acta Theriologica (Polish Academy of Sciences), the Israel Science Foundation and the PASSHE Faculty Professional Development Council, and

WHEREAS Professor Zegers published in excess of 28 papers in several ecological journals and attended and participated in more than 50 professional conferences at which he presented numerous papers gaining recognition for his contributions to science, first and foremost, to Millersville University and, perhaps begrudgingly, for himself; and

WHEREAS Professor Zegers has served on many committees for professional organizations, such as the Resolutions Committee and Publications Committee of the American Society of Mammalogists and the Mammal Technical Committee of the Pennsylvania Biological Survey; and

WHEREAS Professor Zegers has worked on wide-ranging field and lab research projects with both colleagues and students, including the population dynamics of small mammals, barriers to the daily movements of the white-footed mouse, the impact of periodic cicada emergence on survival, reproduction and the long-term population dynamics of small mammals, the impact of streamside restoration on avian community diversity and structure, landscape effects on the distribution and abundance of mammalian carnivores in Lancaster County and the impact of meadow voles on sapling survival in riparian restoration; and

WHEREAS Professor Zegers has been and continues to be a contributory member of numerous professional organizations, such as the American Society of Mammalogists, the Ecological Society of America, the Society for Conservation Biology, the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology, Sigma Xi and the Pennsylvania Academy

of Science, serving on many committees for these professional organizations, such as the Resolutions Committee and Publications Committee of the American Society of Mammalogists and the Mammal Technical Committee of the Pennsylvania Biological Survey; and

WHEREAS Professor Zegers is a highly esteemed and respected colleague, who was not only prepared to take on many arduous responsibilities in his department, such as Department Assistant Chairperson, Acting Chairperson and Department Chairperson and member or Chair of countless committees, including the Evaluation Committee, the Scheduling Committee, and various Search Committees and who organized Department Colloquia and arranged for visiting scholars to enhance the academic rigor and experience for Millersville students, and who has been named a Volunteer-in-Service, but did all of this unconditionally, with enthusiasm and utmost concern to help the department function as efficiently as possible; and

WHEREAS Professor Zegers has served on countless University-wide committees over three decades, such as the MU Center for Environmental Science for which he served as Director and the President's Task Force for a Sustainable Campus; and

WHEREAS Dr. Zegers served as Advisor or Co-Advisor to student clubs, such as the Biology Club and Ornithology Club (or as it was also known, UFO, the University Field Ornithologists), in support of further student experiences as well as intellectual and social development outside of the classroom or research lab; and

WHEREAS Professor Zegers participated actively and with distinction in the School of Science and Mathematics Spotlight on Science (S. O. S.) program, making presentations to local elementary, middle and high school students on numerous occasions, thereby sharing with those students his knowledge of and enthusiasm for biology and the living world; and

WHEREAS Dr. Zegers could always be counted on to make critical and salient contributions to debates about crucial or controversial department and University issues, contributions characteristically filled with wit, wisdom, and, above all, his keen concern for the betterment of the University and his department; and

WHEREAS Dr. Zegers and his wife Cheryl served as a gracious and amiable hosts for Biology Department picnics and other events, and

WHEREAS In no way can such documents as this adequately express what it means to have such an integral member of the department retire, suffice it to say that Dave will be greatly missed by all of his colleagues at Millersville as he spends more time in various leisure and professional pursuits; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That in recognition of his long service and contributions to his Department; his School and the University, the Biology Department of Millersville University requests that Dr. David A. Zegers be granted the honorary title of Professor of Biology Emeritus.