

DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**IN MEMORIAM
ARNOLD ROMBERG**

Arnold Romberg, professor of physics, died on June 1, 1974. He was 91.

Professor Romberg was born on July 7, 1882, in Muldoon, Texas. He earned a bachelor's degree from The University of Texas at Austin in 1910 and master's and PhD degrees from Harvard University in 1913 and 1915, respectively.

Dr. Romberg taught at the University of Hawaii. He joined the faculty at UT Austin in 1923, where he taught until 1940, when he left to establish the LaCoste-Romberg meter manufacturing firm.

With Dr. Lucien LaCoste, Professor Romberg developed a gravity meter, which measures differences in gravitational attraction. Members of the 1972 Apollo 17 team left a LaCoste-Romberg meter on the moon to measure the effects of the sun's gravity on the moon. A similar meter was used at the South Pole to measure the moon's gravitational effects on earth tides. In addition, the meter became an important tool in oil discovery. The Palais de Découverte in Paris, France, included the work of Professor Romberg and Dr. LaCoste in recognition of their groundbreaking work.

Professor Romberg was a member of the Seismological Society of America, the American Physical Society, and the Hawaiian Volcano Research Association.

John R. Durbin, Secretary
The General Faculty

Biographical sketch prepared by Teresa Palomo Acosta and posted on the Faculty Council web site on January 18, 2001. Additional biographical sources can be found in the Barker Texas History Center.