UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

CATHEDRAL OF LEARNING SOCIETY

IN MEMORIAM

CARL F. POKE, PHD

Whereas Carl earned his Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in Political Science from the University of Pittsburgh School of Arts and Sciences in 1955, 1958, and 1968, respectively;

Whereas he was the first academic leader appointed by inaugural President Albert B. Smith when the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg was established in 1963, developed the curriculum that formed the groundwork for the first four-year degrees and the outstanding academic programs now offered at Pitt–Greensburg, and is considered by many to be a “founding father” of the campus;

Whereas he was a distinguished member of the Pitt–Greensburg community for more than 40 years, serving in a number of positions, including Assistant to the President for Academic Affairs, Professor of Political Science, Director of Admissions and Student Aid, Dean of Academic Affairs, and Professor Emeritus;

Whereas his extraordinary dedication to the Greensburg Campus was recognized in 2004 when then President Frank Cassell presented him with the President’s Medal for Distinguished Service;

Whereas Dr. Poke was an enthusiastic world traveler who encouraged students to broaden their own horizons and established the Carl A. Poke and Florence R. Poke Endowed Fund for Student Travel to underwrite international travel experiences for Pitt–Greensburg students, and his passion for films led him to create the Carl F. Poke Endowed Fund for the Millstein Library to support the creation of a media collection for educational and recreational use by members of the University’s five campuses and the libraries serving our home regions; and

Whereas these gifts, together with his exemplary service as administrator and faculty member and his commitment to the education of students, continue to inspire the progress of the Pitt–Greensburg campus,

Now, therefore, in recognition of his extraordinary generosity and commitment to the University of Pittsburgh, I hereby induct, posthumously, Carl F. Poke into the Cathedral of Learning Society.

Presented by
Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg,
the 25th day of June 2010

The Cathedral of Learning is the most widely recognized symbol of the University of Pittsburgh, representing the University’s highest aspirations and serving as an enduring monument to the spirit of philanthropy.

The Cathedral of Learning Society pays tribute to those outstanding individuals whose remarkable leadership support inspires others to recognize the transforming power of knowledge. Induction into the Cathedral of Learning Society is among the highest honors that the University bestows.