Damaraju Raghavarao (1938-2013)

It is with profound sadness we report that Professor Damaraju Raghavarao, the Laura H. Carnell Professor of Statistics in the Fox School of Business, Temple University, died suddenly from a heart attack on February 6, 2013.

Raghavarao completed his high school education in 1951, BA in Mathematics at Hindu College, Guntur in 1955, and MA in Mathematics from Nagpur University in 1956, where he received the prestigious Khan Bahadur H.M. Malek Gold Medal for highest marks. In 1958, he moved to Bombay University, completing his Ph.D. under the supervision of Professor M.C. Chakrabarti in 1961. In 1972, Raghavarao left India, and joined the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill as a Visiting Professor. Two years later he joined the Fox School of Business as a full Professor where he served the school with great distinction for the next 39 years.

Professor Raghavarao's prodigious research in experimental design and sample survey methods with applications in agriculture, marketing and behavioral sciences resulted in 9 books, more than 135 research papers and 20 Ph.D. dissertations. Raghavarao served as Chair of the Statistics Department on 2 separate 5 year terms. For his research contributions, he was appointed the Laura H. Carnell Professor of Statistics in 1989 and awarded the Paul W. Eberman Research award in 1995. He was elected a Fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, a member of the International Statistical Institute and a Fellow of the American Statistical Association. In 1999, his students and fellow academicians held a conference in honor of his 60th birthday. The conference was attended by leading researchers in experimental designs from all over the world. A special book titled *Recent Advances in Experimental Design and Related Topics* was released as a result of this conference.

Unusually dedicated to his students, always ready to provide wise encouragement and insightful counsel, Raghavarao was a man of great humanity. No angry word escaped his lips. He was a devoted father to his 3 children, daughters Venkata Lakhshmi and Sharada and son Venkatrayudu. No tribute to Raghavarao can be complete without mentioning his loving wife, Venkata Rathnam, who inspired Raghavarao's academic achievements and was an exceptional mother to their 3 children until her untimely death in 1989. Raghavarao will be deeply missed not only for his scholarship and teaching, but also for the qualities that made him a man of such exceptional character and support to his family members, his colleagues and his students. We mourn his passing.