



Bellwether Magazine

Volume 1
Number 45 *Spring/Summer 1999*

Article 5

4-1-1999

The E. R. Marookian, V.M.D. Auditorium

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The afternoon of April 16 was a time for a very special celebration at VHUP. Friends and family of Dr. Edgar R. Marookian, V'54, joined faculty, staff and students for the dedication of the E.R. Marookian, V.M.D. Auditorium. Everyone assembled in the refurbished room B101, rejuvenated and equipped now with a new projection system. This was made possible by Dr. Marookian's generosity and the School recognized him by naming the room his honor. Because Dr. Marookian's gift also helps to pay for the critically needed new Research and Teaching Pavilion at 39th and Spruce Streets, plans are to transfer the name "E. R. Marookian, V.M.D. Auditorium" to a new space there once that building is completed.

The School also established an annual endowed Marookian lecture in the field of animal biology. Dean Alan Kelly awarded Dr. Marookian the School's Bellwether Medal for his long-time loyal support. The text of the citation follows:

For over forty years you have enjoyed the reputation as an immensely respected veterinarian and businessman. Ed, your contributions to the veterinary pharmaceutical industry are notable, enabling you to command immeasurable regard among your peers.

Even as a student it was evident that you would be successful as you found ingenious ways to sell lab coats, instruments and medicines to your classmates. Dean Mark Allam singled you out as the only student he had known to graduate financially better off than you entered the School.

As the founder of Clinton Labs in Frenchtown it wasn't long before sales increased dramatically. Not content to ride on that success, you invested in a new suit to interview at Merck Sharp & Dohme and in two short years became head of your division, excelling in the sales of anthelmintics and other veterinary pharmaceuticals. Always looking for new veterinary products to enhance the field, Richardson Merrill, recognizing your talents, sent you around the world pioneering relations between business and veterinary medicine. Throughout these worthwhile endeavors, your devoted



Above: Dr. and Mrs. Marookian unveil the plaque for The E.R. Marookian, V.M.D. Auditorium. Right: Dean Kelly presents the School's Bellwether Medal to Dr. Marookian; and lower right, Dr. and Mrs. Marookian during the ceremonies.

wife, Myrval, has been by your side, vigorously supporting you in all of your achievements.

Believing that it was Penn's School of Veterinary Medicine and the quality of instruction, particularly the science based education, that enabled you to interact with so many people in numerous walks of life, developing new ideas and products, you possess a rare and most cherished quality — an appreciation of quality education with a sense of obligation sustained by supporting your alma mater so that others will benefit.

The University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine has chosen the occasion of the dedication of the E.R. Marookian, V.M.D. Auditorium to pay tribute to you, Ed, and your myriad accomplishments. We applaud your challenge to colleagues to take pride in the rich educational fulfillment as a veterinary scientist and to advance both the stature of the profession and your alma mater. The E.R. Marookian, V.M.D. Auditorium is a perpetual tribute to your vision.

April 16, 1999



As Dean Kelly noted in his citation, Dr. Marookian's financial savvy is of long standing. In making this very generous gift to the School of Veterinary Medicine he worked with officials of the School and the University to make a "planned gift." Planned giving enables donors to avail themselves of certain tax advantages while also contributing a much larger sum than otherwise would be possible. For more information about planned giving call the Office of Planned Giving Programs at 1-800-223-8236.