

Sunney embodied the principles that teaching and research are inseparable, and that service is an essential part of the profession. He was an inspiring mentor and leaves a legacy of former students and postdocs that is remarkable for the diversity of their subsequent careers and interests. Sunney clearly was not mass-producing clones, but rather he had the rare ability of instilling in his group an exquisite sense of identifying important problems and to be fearless in using the necessary approaches to solve them. One of the most impressive qualities of Sunney has been his dedication to service and commitment to the community at all levels. His activities at Caltech were legendary and included serving as Master of Student Houses, Chair of the Faculty, and executive officer of the Chemistry Division; after “retiring” from Caltech, Sunney held leadership positions in the Academia Sinica where he effectively supported the research programs of young scientists. These activities represent a level of dedication to the community that in my experience is unique. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to be his colleague - thank you, Sunney.

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