Be it resolved that on February 11, 2005, the faculty and staff of the College of Education at the University of Maryland honor the life and professional career and acknowledge the death of Dr. John David Lockard, Professor Emeritus.

Dr. Lockard was born December 20, 1929, in Renova, Pennsylvania. He received his B.S. in science education, M.Ed. in educational administration and supervision, and Ph.D. in botany from Pennsylvania State University.

He devoted the major part of his teaching career serving as a joint appointment between Botany and the Science Teaching Center (STC) within Secondary Education at the University of Maryland College Park. He founded the STC in the summer of 1962 and served as its director for many years. He also served as chair of the Botany Department late in his career. In the fall of 1969 the first of many NSF-Funded Academic Year Institutes for Science Supervisors was held at the STC, providing a national reputation for the STC. During his university career he advised more than 60 doctoral students.

In fall 1962 John Mayor of the AAAS asked Dr. Lockard to create a joint AAAS/UMD Information Clearinghouse on Science and Mathematics Teaching Activities. That same fall, Robert Carleton, former Executive Director of the NSTA, asked the STC to become responsible for reviewing science-teaching materials for The Science Teacher and Science and Children. In 1965 Dave received a travel grant to Amsterdam and Paris (UNESCO). Al Baez, UNESCO Science Teaching Director, requested that the Clearing House be designated as an International Clearinghouse on Science and Mathematics Curriculum Development, supported by UNESCO funding. The annual reports were disseminated well into the 1980s. In the fall of 1968 he received a USAID/NSF grant for the study of Improvised Science Teaching Equipment Worldwide (IS-2). In April 1973, he co-chaired a UNESCO-sponsored International Council of Scientific Unions conference on the Preparation of Teachers for Integrated Science, held at the University of Maryland. It was after this conference that Dr. Lockard helped to establish the International Council of Associations for Science Education (ICASE) and served as ICASE’s first president until 1975 and remained closely associated with ICASE for many years.

Lockard’s Ph.D. work at Penn State was in Botany with a specialization in mycology, the study of fungi. He and his major professor completed some of the early basic work in learning about the process of growing the common field mushroom (the one we buy in the grocery store), Agaricus bisporus. They refined the process by which you could get the mushrooms to “fruit” at the same time, which in turn made it commercially feasible to grow the mushrooms in extensive cultivation beds seeded in Pennsylvania abandoned coal mines.

Lockard’s work in science education included serving as president of the National Association for Research in Science Teaching, vice president of AAAS and chair of its Section Q-Education, and president and secretary of the Joint Board on Science Education of the Washington Academy of Sciences and D.C. Council of Engineering and Architectural Societies. In addition, he was a member of The ERIC Clearinghouse for Science, Mathematics, and Environmental Education Advisory Board and chaired the AAAS Consortium of Affiliates for International Programs. Among his many activities with NSTA, Lockard served as program chair for the 1971 NSTA National Convention in Washington, DC. He was honored with the Association’s Distinguished Service to Science Education Award in 1974. He was a major player in NSTA especially in its international activities. He was a frequent participant on NSF review panels, and in NSF international programs. He was one of the most influential national and international figures in science education and his legacy lives through the continuing activities of all of those who came under his influence.


He is survived by his wife, Colette; son John Martin Lockard; daughters Joyce Brower, Carole Werner, and Brenda Lockard; and eight grandchildren.