

## **R.T. Major Lecture Series**

**October 10-11, 2007**

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### **Travel Directions and Parking:**

Take I-84 east/west to exit 68. Travel south on Route 195 straight through the intersection with Route 32. At Mansfield Four Corners (intersection of Routes 195 and 44) proceed straight ahead approximately 1.5 miles to the Storrs Campus. At the second set of traffic lights, turn right onto North Eagleville Road (there will be a white church on your right). You will then immediately see a pond (swan lake) and the New Chemistry Building on your left. However, in order to park your car, you will need to follow North Eagleville Road until the second light where you will see the Parking Garage on your left. Guests may park in the North Garage for an hourly rate (maximum charge is \$6 a day.) It will take about a 5 min. walk back to the New Chemistry Building.

### **Overnight Accommodations:**

For those who need overnight accommodations, the following is a list of appropriate motels. The Regent Inn and Pleasant View Lodge are located near Willimantic, south of the campus. They are best reached via route 195.

Regent Inn, Best Western, Route 195, Mansfield  
Five miles from UConn (860) 423-8451

Quality Inn, Exits 63 and 64 off I-84, Route 83, Manchester  
Seventeen miles from UConn (860) 646-5700

Comfort Inn, Exit 64E and 65W off I-84, Rockville  
Seventeen miles from UConn (860) 871-2432

Nathan Hale Inn and Conference Center, Located on the UConn, Storrs campus at 855 Bolton Road, Storrs (860) 427-7888

# Randolph T. Major

## 1901-1976

Randolph T. Major was born in Columbus, Ohio on December 23, 1901. He attended the University of Nebraska where he earned his A.B. in 1922 and M.S. in 1924. He received his Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Princeton University in 1927. He stayed on as an instructor and research associate at Princeton until 1930, when he joined Merck and Company, Inc., as Director of Pure Research.

For thirty-seven years Randolph Major played a significant role in the development of research programs at Merck. He held the positions of Director of Pure Research (1930-56), Vice President and Scientific Director (1947-53), Scientific Vice President (1953-56), and Scientific Advisor (1956-67, retired). He made important contributions to the establishment of commercial production of penicillin, hydrocortisone and various vitamins, and he was noted for both scientific vision and warm personable leadership.

Randolph Major was a Research Professor at the University of Connecticut from 1970 until his death on November 1, 1976. He had previously served as Professor and Research Professor at the University of Virginia. At UConn he continued an active research program, directed undergraduate research projects, and shared ideas and interests with faculty and students alike.

Following his death in 1976, Merck and Company, Inc., presented the University of Connecticut Foundation a grant to endow an annual Lectureship in Chemistry in his memory. The renowned chemists who have participated in this Memorial Lecture Series honor the name and ideals of Randolph T. Major.