

Obituaries

EUGENE POWERS BOARDMAN (1910–87)

Professor Emeritus Eugene Powers Boardman, a pioneer in East Asian history at the University of Wisconsin, died suddenly and unexpectedly in Madison, Wisconsin, on August 21, 1987, at the age of 76.

Boardman was born on October 5, 1910, in Aurora, Illinois. He received a B.A. in 1932 from Beloit College, an M.A. in 1937 from the University of Wisconsin, an M.A. in 1939 from Harvard University, and a Ph.D. in 1947 from Harvard. Edgewood College awarded him an honorary L.H.D. in 1987.

Boardman taught at the American University in Beirut (1932–35). During World War II he was a Japanese language officer in the United States Marine Corps. In 1946 he joined the history faculty at the University of Wisconsin and was promoted to professor in 1961, retiring in 1981.

Christian Influence upon the Ideology of the Taiping Rebellion, 1851–1854 (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1952) was Boardman's major scholarly publication. He was also the author of *A New China Policy*, published by Yale University Press in 1965.

Boardman held a Fulbright fellowship in 1951 at the University of Hong Kong, was a senior research fellow at the East Asian Institute, Columbia University (1956–57), and lobbied in Washington, D.C. for a new China policy as a representative of the Society of Friends' Committee on National Legislation (1965–66).

Boardman is remembered by students and colleagues as a gentle person, deeply interested in teaching. He is also remembered for having the courage to call for normalization of United States–China diplomatic relations in the early 1950s and for supporting the right of politically controversial figures to speak at the University of Wisconsin.

SIDNEY BROWN
University of Oklahoma

RICHARD MITCHELL
University of Missouri–St. Louis

DANIEL RAMSDELL
Central Washington University

FRANK WONG
University of Redlands