

Dear Friends,

I regret to inform you that Louis A. Gottschalk, a pioneering neuroscientist, distinguished professor and university benefactor, died surrounded by family in his Corona del Mar home on Thanksgiving Day, 2008 just hours after finishing his meal. He was 92.

Dr. Gottschalk, an M.D., Ph.D. who began his association with UC Irvine more than four decades ago when he became founding chair of the university's Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior in 1967, left an indelible mark as a researcher, teacher and philanthropist. During his career, he greatly enhanced the neurobiological understanding of schizophrenia, anxiety disorders, addiction, violent behavior and hyperactivity, among other conditions. In recognition of his many contributions, including a \$1.5-million gift in 1997 to create the Louis A. and Helen C. Gottschalk Endowed Fund in the College of Medicine, Dr. Gottschalk received the university's highest honor, The UCI Medal. In 1997, the university renamed the UCI Medical Plaza as the Louis A. and Helen C. Gottschalk Medical Plaza after him and his late wife, a UC Irvine professor of dermatology.

Dr. Gottschalk made national headlines in the late 1980s when he concluded that President Ronald Reagan suffered from cognitive brain impairment as early as his first term, years before the late president was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. Dr. Gottschalk reached this conclusion using the famed Gottschalk-Gleser Scales, a diagnostic tool he helped invent, that charted impairments in brain function. To prevent the politicization of his findings, Dr. Gottschalk delayed releasing them until near the end of President Reagan's second term.

Ever the innovator, Professor Gottschalk later converted the time-consuming Gottschalk-Gleser Scales into easy-to-use computer software. That program uses handwriting samples, texts and other means to assess levels of cognitive impairment and other states such as anger, depression and anxiety. In his mid 80s, Dr. Gottschalk and his research team found that many drug addicts had a childhood history of attention-deficit disorder, an important finding suggesting that ADD and addiction are somehow related.

We at the university send our deepest condolences to Dr.Gottschalk's family. We hope that they might find a measure of solace in knowing that he touched so many lives, including many of ours at UC Irvine.

With warmest Regards,

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Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs