IN MEMORIAM
MICHEL AUGUSTE RENÉ DASSONVILLE

Michel Auguste René Dassonville, professor of French at The University of Texas at Austin, passed away on November 29, 2012, after a long illness. He was born on December 27, 1927, in Lille, France, the oldest of three children. After marrying Thérèse Ennaert, he immigrated to Canada in 1949, where he taught at the College Saint-Jean Eudes in Bathurst (New Brunswick). He then taught at Université Laval (Québec), where he received his doctorate. In 1958, he and his family moved back to Paris for two years, during which he was a professor at the Lycée Massillon and at the Institut Catholique.

He first came to UT Austin in 1960, returned briefly to Laval University for one year, and in 1963, he became professor of French in the Department of Romance Languages at The University of Texas at Austin. His primary specializations were French 16th Century Literature, French Civilization, and Literary Analysis.

Professor Dassonville directed numerous M.A. theses and Ph.D. dissertations. He was highly respected by his students and his peers, and he will be remembered also for his numerous publications, including his *Ronsard: étude historique et littéraire* in 5 volumes, his *Théâtre français de la Renaissance*, his critical edition of Pierre de La Ramée’s *Dialectique*, his studies on Octave Cremazie and Louis Fréchette, and his *Initiation à la recherche littéraire*. The French government awarded him the *Palmes Académiques* in 1976. In 1981, he married Josette Mailler Bigelow, an associate professor of French at UT Austin.

Professor Dassonville retired from The University of Texas at Austin in 1993. He is survived by his three children, Marie-France, Jean-Louis, and Pierre-Olivier, by his step-son, François Bigelow, and by his eight grandchildren and nine great-grand-children.

This memorial resolution was prepared by a special committee consisting of Professor François Lagarde and former staff member, Elisabeth Barret.

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