February 5, 2014

Dear Colleagues,

It is with sorrow that I must inform you of the passing of Professor Emeritus of Community Health, Albert Foberg Wessen, PhD, on February 3, 2014.

Professor Wessen joined the Brown faculty in 1971 as Professor of Medical Science (Community Medicine) and of Sociology. Professor Wessen was the founding chair of the Department of Community Health and was responsible for developing the initial bio-psycho-social content for the curriculum. It was under Professor Wessen’s direction that the Health and Society undergraduate concentration was instituted, has evolved into the concentration in public health. Although he “officially” retired in 1994, he continued to serve as an advisor on undergraduate senior theses and graduate theses and dissertations. Professor Wessen also was a valued advisor in the formation of the new Brown University School of Public Health.

Professor Wessen leaves a legacy of solid scholarship and commitment to teaching. He will be remembered with respect and admiration, most notably as a charismatic and accomplished teacher and mentor. Please join me in remembering Professor Wessen for his great contributions to the University and to Public Health throughout his career.

Sincerely,

Terrie Fox Wetle, MS, PhD
Dean, School of Public Health
Brown University