

Dennis B. Ames  
1906 - 1988  
PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS, EMERITUS

B. A., M. A., Bishop University; Ph.D., Yale University, 1931  
California State University, Fullerton From September 1, 1960 To February 1,  
1973  
Birth: September 6, 1906; Death: November 7, 1988

Dr. Dennis B. Ames came to Orange County State College in 1960 and became its first Mathematics Chairman. Dennis' previous positions include professor of Mathematics, RPI (1937-49); Professor and Chairman of the Mathematics Department, University of New Hampshire (1949-56) and Research Mathematician, Hughes Aircraft (1956-60).

Dennis was primarily responsible for the development of the mathematics curriculum and the mathematics major. He was a tireless advocate of extending the educational traditions to mathematics majors. This was reflected by his insistence on a strong theoretical foundation in mathematics and in additional studies in such diverse areas as physics and foreign languages. Expecting high academic standards from the University, he fought to keep remedial courses from inundating his Department.

Dennis had strong convictions, yet he ran the Department very democratically and deliberately, involving each member in many facets such as the hiring of new faculty.

Dennis was always eager to discuss mathematics or problems in teaching with his colleagues. His main professional interest, modern algebra, culminated in the publication of the text *Introduction to Abstract Algebra*.

Most of all, Dennis will be remembered by his younger colleagues for the leadership, support and encouragement he gave them in their personal and professional development.

His retirement began in 1973. He survived his beloved wife Mildred until 1988 when he died at the age of 82.

Submitted by  
Rollin T. Sandberg  
Professor of Mathematics, Emeritus  
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