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In memory of Professor Shiu-Ying Hu

With abundant respect and sincere condolences to her friends and family, the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University honors the life and work of our beloved colleague Professor Shiu-Ying Hu. Those among us who had the privilege to know and work with Professor Hu remember her personal grace, her generosity as a teacher and associate, and her unrelenting passion for plants. She will be greatly missed, but her important work to explore the native flora of her home country will continue to inspire generations of plant scientists around the world.

Professor Hu's long association with Harvard University and the Arnold Arboretum began in 1946, when she was offered a graduate fellowship in the doctorate program at Radcliffe College. Her doctoral dissertation on the genus *Ilex*, the hollies, was carried out under the direction of E. D. Merrill, then director of the Arnold Arboretum. Shiu-Ying Hu was one of the last students to be advised by Dr. Merrill before his retirement, and her knowledge of plants and talent as a researcher greatly impressed him. After obtaining her doctoral degree in 1949—becoming the first Chinese woman to receive an advanced degree in botany at Harvard University—she served as an herbarium assistant at the Arnold Arboretum under the directorship of Karl Sax. Dr. Sax described Professor Hu as “one of the most competent and industrious students I have ever known.” Beginning in 1953, her work focused on the Flora of China Project, and she made much progress in preparing descriptions, keys, citations of important literature, and specimen collection for the project. She is remembered as a tireless researcher, devoted to expanding our understanding and appreciation of plants and the many ways they benefit Earth and humankind.

Even after Professor Hu's official retirement from the Arboretum in 1976, she continued to be a valued associate in our work to study and understand the biodiversity of temperate China, and our collections-based interest in investigating the connections between the floras of eastern China and eastern North America. Her strong belief in the value of preserving plant specimens for study has resulted in the collection and identification of tens of thousands of herbarium sheets that will continue to assist botanists in their work for years to come. Her legacy will also live on in her many published works—astoundingly produced over a fifty-year span—which showcase her broad expertise and commitment to scholarship. Professor Hu generously shared her many gifts with us in her lifetime, and we as her colleagues, students, and friends will continue to draw inspiration from her exemplary life and immense accomplishments. While we are greatly saddened at her passing, we celebrate her fruitful long life, her dedication to plants and the vocation of teaching, and her tireless search for new knowledge.