Dear Colleagues:

We are greatly saddened to learn that Dr. Gordon Hirabayashi, Professor Emeritus, passed away January 2nd, 2012. As Chair of the Sociology Department from 1963 to 1970, Dr. Hirabayashi made long-lasting and significant contributions to the Department, the University and to society. On behalf of the Sociology Department, we send our deepest condolences to his family, friends and former colleagues.

Details about a memorial service for Dr. Hirabayashi can be found in the accompanying obituary. You may also be interested in reading the article about Dr. Hirabayashi’s life that ran in The New York Times on January 3rd, 2012 ("Gordon Hirabayashi, World War II Internment Opponent, Dies at 93").

He will be sadly missed by his wife, Susan Carnahan; daughters: Sharon (Gerry Yuen), Marion (Doug Oldenberg); and son, Jay (Barbara Bourget); Susan's daughters: Lesley (Greg Bondar), Allison Secord, Heather Secord (Sue Jodoin); grandchildren: Steven, Tiarra, Shelley, Alisha, Jennifer, Bodhi, Daniel, Kai, Joseph, Drew, Gareth, Elyse, Andreas and Shea; great-grandchildren: Hannah, James, Bronwyn, Soren, Kobi, Louis, Matthias, Amelia and Kinley; as well as his brother, Jim and sister, Esther Furugori. Many thanks to the staff of Second Lynnwood for their compassionate, ongoing care. Cremation has taken place.

A Memorial Meeting for Worship in the manner of Friends (Quakers) will take place at 1:00 p.m., Friday, January 6, 2012 at the Argyll Community League/Edmonton Japanese Canadian Association building, 6750 - 88 Street, Edmonton. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Capital Care Lynnwood Renovation Fund; The Dr Gordon Hirabayashi Graduate Scholarship in Sociology, Department of Sociology, University of Alberta; The Gordon Hirabayashi Endowment Fund, University of Washington, Seattle.