We are saddened to announce the passing of Harry Green, Distinguished Professor of the Graduate Division at the University of California, Riverside. Harry earned his PhD in 1968 working with David T. Griggs (one of the fathers of rock mechanics) at the University of California, Los Angeles. He completed his postdoctoral work in the Division of Metallurgy and Materials Science, Case Western Reserve University and then in 1970, began his long career as a Professor in the University of California System, first at Davis and then at Riverside.

Harry is known world-wide as one of the giants in the field of high-temperature/high pressure mineralogy and petrology, and was a scientist of unparalleled energy, enthusiasm and vision. His vision and interests were as broad as they were deep, and he relished taking on big problems with fresh approaches, drawing upon his prodigious memory of interesting items he had encountered in the past, be they an intriguing paper or a curious feature in an outcrop. He was exceptional in his ability to move between natural samples and the laboratory, from developing insight into the deep origins of xenoliths from the tiniest inclusions, to developing new instrumentation with which to conduct high-pressure deformation studies. He could see the big picture implication of the tiniest microstructure. This talent was evidenced by his experimental investigations of high-pressure phase transformations, and their relation to the problem of the mechanism for deep focus earthquakes. His lab was a hub for international research, and many in the community either were trained or worked as guests in his facilities. He was a generous collaborator who worked with many researchers across the solid earth sciences from seismology to metamorphic petrology. He was as unselfish in service
to his community as he was open to scientific collaborations. His service to the scientific community was extremely wide-ranging; a sample of which includes Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Consortium for Materials Properties Research in Earth Sciences (COMPRES), and serving as President of the Tectonophysics Section and member of the Governing Council of the American Geophysical Union (AGU). A Fellow of the Mineralogical Society of America, AGU, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Harry was awarded the Bowen Award from AGU and the Roebling Medal by the Mineralogical Society of America, among many other honors, awards, and lectureships.

Beyond his service to the scientific community, Harry served the University of California in many capacities. In 1992, after serving as chair of the Geology Department at UC Davis, Harry moved to Riverside, CA and became the Director of the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics (IGPP) at UCR. He then became Vice Chancellor for Research, serving with distinction for 5 years. During his tenure as VCR, among the many improvements he implemented, was a new process which greatly facilitated grant applications by the faculty. In addition, Harry was a strong believer in shared governance within the University of California. He served the Academic Senate in numerous ways, including chairing the Committee on Undergraduate Education, sitting on the Committee on Academic Personnel (CAP) at Riverside, and chairing UCAP at the State-Wide Senate for two years. During the latter period he was instrumental in changing APM210-1.d to become more inclusive, as he was a staunch advocate of increasing faculty diversity at UC. For his service to the Senate and campus at large, he received the Distinguished Campus Service Award. For his contributions to his field of science, he received the Faculty Research Lecturer Award, the highest award bestowed upon the faculty at UC. Harry was an inspiring teacher who went beyond the call of duty to ensure that his students learned and developed strong critical thinking skills.

But Harry was more than a world-class scientist, servant and teacher; he was a wonderful human being. He was fair and kind, and his integrity was unparalleled. He was known for his generosity of spirit, going above and beyond for countless colleagues and friends. He traveled the world many times over, loved to tell stories, and his wry sense of humor endeared him to everyone he met. But more than anything, Harry was a loving husband, father and grandfather. He is survived by his wife Manuela Martins-Green, also a professor at UC Riverside, as well as his children and grandchildren.

There will be a Celebration of Life for friends and family to gather and remember Harry and the many lives he touched (a separate announcement will be made when details are finalized). In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you donate to the Harry W. Green Geo-Physics Graduate Award Endowment to attract Graduate Students to enter the field of Geophysics. Donations can be made online here: Harry Green Fund or by mailing a check made out to “UCR Foundation” to PO Box 112, Riverside, CA 92502-0112 with “Harry Green Fund” in the memo line.

This tribute to Harry was a joint effort written by Pamela Burnley, David Oglesby, Jim Dieterich, Eric Riggs, Manuela, and Harry’s children.