

## **Stephen and Ruth Wainwright Endowed Fellowship at Friday Harbor Labs**

The Stephen and Ruth Wainwright Endowed Fellowship provides financial assistance to graduate students studying or conducting original research in functional morphology at the University of Washington Friday Harbor Laboratories. The intent of this fund is to stimulate graduate research activities similar to those that Prof. Stephen Wainwright actively encouraged and supported during his research career.

Stephen Wainwright was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, where he lived until he enrolled at Duke University in North Carolina for undergraduate study. He conducted postgraduate studies at the University of Hawaii and Cambridge University before receiving a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. From 1964 until his retirement in 1997, he was a professor of zoology at Duke University, where he and his graduate students studied organismal functional morphology and biomechanics. In 1980, Stephen co-taught a biomechanics summer course at the Friday Harbor Laboratories. Since then, his former students have continued to teach similar courses and conduct research there. This tradition of active biomechanics teaching and research at Friday Harbor Laboratories was an important factor in fostering the success experienced by this field in the latter decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Stephen met his wife, Ruth, when they were both graduate students at the University of Hawaii. Ruth was from the Fraser River Valley of British Columbia and took summer classes at Friday Harbor Laboratories in the early 1950s. She did not pursue a career in biology, instead she devoted her life to raising four children. She visited Friday Harbor while Stephen was teaching there, and the two of them traveled to the region almost every year during the 1980s and 90s. Ruth has since passed away; Steve resides in Durham, North Carolina.