

ROBERT MAYER LUMIANSKY

Robert Mayer Lumiansky, President of the American Council of Learned Societies, is a renowned scholar and effective academic administrator. A native South Carolinian, he was educated at The Citadel, the University of South Carolina, and this Institution, where he received the Ph.D. degree. At Tulane University he became, successively, the head of the English Department, the Dean of the Graduate School, and the Provost of the University. He taught at Duke University and was department chairman at the University of Pennsylvania. He served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the American Council of Learned Societies between 1959 and 1974, when he assumed his present post.

Professor Lumiansky's several scholarly books and numerous articles on medieval English studies are both meticulous and illuminating. Perhaps the best known of his works is Chaucer's Canterbury Tales in Modern English. He is an authority on Malory's Morte d'Arthur. In recent years he has turned to a major study of the Chester Mystery Cycle, Volume I of which has already appeared. While at Duke, Professor Lumiansky helped to organize the joint program in the Humanities with this University, and he played an important role in the creation of the National Endowment for the Humanities and Fine Arts. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the National Humanities Center.

As well as any man in the United States at the present time he combines the ideals of the humanistic scholar and teacher with responsible commitment in the field as administrator and advocate. He has received several awards including the Distinguished Alumnus Award of this Institution. The University now adds yet one additional accolade to the honors earned by this noted alumnus.