

1975

RUPERT BAYLESS VANCE

Is a distinguished sociologist who has contributed in an outstanding way to the region and the nation through research, writing, and teaching, especially about Southerners and the South.

Born in Arkansas, Professor Vance attended Henderson-Brown College there. He earned a Master's degree in Economics at Vanderbilt and then, attracted by the work of the late Howard W. Odum, he came to this University for his doctoral work. He joined the faculty here and rose to become Kenan Professor in 1945.

Professor Vance has been elected to the presidencies of the Southern Sociological Society, of the American Sociological Association, and of the American Population Association. He was called to consult with agencies of the Federal Government and the United Nations organization on problems in his field of population and social geography. Through his several books, scores of articles, lectures, and years of teaching, Professor Vance has contributed vastly not only to the understanding of the human problems of the South, but also to the possible solution of many of them.

With this award, this University recognizes Professor Vance's significant and valuable service over many years to this region and to the nation.