Four of the University's best known and beloved teachers were retired June 1. For students of the past 40 years, their absence from the Sooner scene will hold special significance.

The four—Dr. E. E. Dale, '11ba, Dr. O. B. Jacobson, Dr. Victor H. Kulp and Dr. Guy Y. Williams, '06ba, '10ma, grew up with the University. Their history is interwoven with the history of their school. Their successes inevitably meant success for the institution.

Dr. Williams, professor emeritus of chemistry, has completed 50 years of campus work. He came to Norman in 1902 as a student, took his first degree in 1906 and stayed on to teach. This one-time circus acrobat's attention getting devices are legend. What student of the past 40 years has failed to hear of transom entrances on "pop" quiz days or of lectures delivered during a handstand.

And while he was teaching chemistry with what some might call an unorthodox classroom technique, Dr. Williams was making a name for himself in the education world. He was founder and trainer of O.U.'s Student Army Training Corps during World War I and was instrumental in establishing the campus ROTC unit afterwards. He was named head of the Department of Chemistry in 1923, a post he held for many years.

Dr. Kulp, David Ross Boyd professor emeritus of law, became the fourth member of fledging Law School faculty in 1911. Affectionately titled "Daddy" Kulp by many members of the legal profession, he is the nation's leading authority on oil and gas law. His textbooks on the subject are widely used. He has served as a watchdog on the legal profession during his 41-year tenure at O.U. Those who attended his classes became alerted to the fact that he stood for the best in the legal world. Those who did not appreciate the best frequently found themselves without entry into the profession.

Dr. Dale, research professor emeritus of history, joined the faculty after receiving his master's degree in 1914. With a thorough knowledge of the west and southwest's traditions, Dr. Dale and the region have held hands without embarrassment for more than 70 years. A recognized authority on the history of the west, Dr. Dale is a widely known lecturer, writer and teacher. His Oklahoma history has long been considered an essential part of an Oklahoman's education.

Dr. Jacobson, research professor emeritus of art, started his University career in 1915, when he was hired as head of the Art Department. He earned an international reputation as a landscape painter, lecturer, critic and educator. Perhaps his greatest contribution to art was the encouragement he gave young Indian artists. Through his efforts the Indian was taught to recapture and develop their own art form. International attention was focused on the results of the Indian art program.

All of these men have headed professional and honorary groups in their fields. There is no attempt here to catalog their accomplishments. Every student who attended a class taught by any of them has listed their achievements in the only completely satisfactory way.

Statistically, the four served the University for a total of 162 years. The figure does not indicate the amount of wisdom imparted. Neither does it consider the benefits a sound, human approach to teaching can bring.

For their important roles, brilliantly played, in building the University of Oklahoma, The Sooner tenders them its sharpest salute.