

Earl Lemley Core, Ph.D.

Earl Lemley Core, Ph.D., namesake of the Core Arboretum in Morgantown, was born in Core, W.Va., January 20, 1902. Now deceased, he was a member of West Virginia University's Biology Department for 44 years, served as the



Department's chairman for 18 years, and was curator of the WVU Herbarium for 40 years. He was the author of countless scholarly books and articles, the recipient of numerous awards and honors, and held many civic offices, including city council member and mayor of Morgantown.

In addition to his work in the sciences, he was an amateur historian who wrote a history of his home community, a history of the First Christian Church of Morgantown, and a five-volume history of Monongalia County, completed shortly before his death in 1984. "Dr. Core was one of the best scholars West Virginia University ever produced," wrote a former student shortly after Core's death, "and I have no doubt that he will be remembered in history as one of West Virginia's outstanding native sons."