



中国科学院华南植物园

South China Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences

September 21, 2022

International Association of Botanic Gardens (IABG) :

Please accept our sincere condolences for the loss of Professor Vernon Heywood (1927-2022).

Professor Heywood dedicated his entire life to plant conservation and botany research as President of the International Association of Botanic Gardens (IABG) in (2012-2017) and Emeritus Professor at the University of Reading. He was Professor of Botany and Head of Department at the University of Reading until 1987, when he became the founder and the first Secretary general of Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) and Professor and Head of Department of Botany at the University of Liverpool (1964-1967).

With a long career in plant taxonomy, systematics, and evolution, Professor Heywood had trained generations of students who now occupy senior positions in many parts of the world. He had published more than 70 books, including the best-selling *Flowering Plants of the World* and its updated *Flowering Plant Families of the World*, as well as the *Global Biodiversity Assessment*, and is the author of more than 400 papers in scientific journals. In 1987, he was awarded the Linnean Medal by the Linnean Society of London. *Planta Europa* honored him with their Linnaeus Award in 2007.

Professor Heywood was an old friend and mentor of China and the South China Botanical Garden. As a well-known world botanist, he had been invited to attend important congresses in China since 2012 and had given us much visionary guidance.

We are saddened to have lost such a wonderful friend who made significant contributions to plant conservation and botany research. We express our sincere condolences to his family and all the BGCI family.

Sincere condolences,

South China Botanical Garden, CAS