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Leonard J. Swidler, Ph.D.  
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Dear Len,

I am delighted to join your many friends and colleagues in sending my very best wishes for your 80th birthday and to thank you for sharing more than half of your remarkably accomplished life with the students and faculty of Temple University.

A simple reading of your curriculum vitae reveals an astonishing record of scholarship and service: more than 70 books and 200 articles which you authored, edited or translated; travel to more than 50 countries to lecture, teach and build critical relationships between universities and scholars; your championship of gender equality and respect among people of different faith traditions; and your role in founding and leading the Institute for Interreligious, Intercultural Dialogue, the Association for the Rights of Catholics in the Church and the Global Dialogue Institute, to cite just a few examples.

We know that you hold your wonderful collaboration with your beloved Andie highest among your achievements. From your groundbreaking work together on the *Una Sancta* Movement and co-founding of the *Journal of Ecumenical Studies* and so many projects, you and Andie have contributed immeasurably to the field of interreligious dialogue, and in raising your two equally gifted daughters, you have passed the fire of intellectual curiosity and passion for teaching and research to the next generation.

You have inspired many generations of Temple students as well, and everyone who has encountered your work has had the opportunity to grow in appreciation and tolerance. I am deeply grateful that you remain so active in your continued studies and travels. You continue to amaze us all by such feats as your trip last summer to Jordan and Romania and your three-week whirlwind lecturing tour of five Far Eastern countries just this past January.

On this special occasion and on behalf of the entire Temple University community, I hope you will accept my most sincere appreciation for all you continue to do to promote greater understanding and peace among the faithful of all traditions and all who seek a more peaceful and collaborative world.

Warm regards,



Ann Weaver Hart