



SHIUM ANDREW CHEN

Shium (Andrew) Chen (1931–2021) was born in China, the fifth of eight children. His father was a hydro-engineer, and his mother was active in the Chinese women's suffrage movement and later was elected to the Taiwan National Assembly. He came of age during a period of profound upheaval marked by war and political conflict. In 1949, his family fled to Taiwan, where he earned a B.A. in Educational Psychology from National Taiwan Normal University.

With a scholarship, Andrew moved to the United States to attend the University of Oregon, earning his M.Ed. in 1956 while supporting himself through labor and odd jobs. He also helped his younger brothers come to the U.S. for graduate studies. He later earned an M.A. in Education from Teachers College, Columbia University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh.

Andrew began his academic career at Hofstra University, then taught at Emporia State University, where he met his wife, Veronica. In 1966, he joined Slippery Rock University, where he served for over three decades, including as Professor and Department Chair, before retiring in 1997.

Andrew and Veronica raised their three children in Butler—all Butler High graduates. The Chen's were long-standing members of St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church and naturally all were avid Steelers, Pirates and Penguins fans.

A dedicated community leader, Andrew was deeply involved with the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA), serving at both local and national levels, including as National President. His advocacy focused on issues such as anti-Asian violence, multicultural education, minority inclusion, and mental health. He also served on the Pennsylvania Ethnic Affairs Commission and chaired the Asian American Advisory Council.

Andrew was elected President of the Asian American Psychological Association (1995–1997) and served on the American Psychological Association's Commission on Violence and Youth. He was recognized as a Fellow of both the Educational Psychology and the Psychology of Ethnic Minorities within the American Psychological Association. In addition, Andrew published a book in 2017 called, "My Journey to Becoming Chinese American: A Memoir of an Asian American Psychologist and His Search for Ethnic Identity".