

## North Central Region



**Marc Linit**

**Senior Associate Dean for Research & Extension and Director of the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station (*retired*)  
University of Missouri**

Marc Linit is an intelligent, trusted, quick-witted, approachable, and focused colleague who was always ready to step up for the common good. As Senior Associate Dean, his thoughtful analysis, engaging leadership, and inclusive nature encompassed his administrative accomplishments as well as significant contributions with mentoring emerging and new leaders. Marc simply enjoyed the moment and innovating towards the future. He valued the role of education personally and for its benefit to society. He believed that land grant universities provide an opportunity for learning that is essential for a healthy society.

Dr. Linit was an outstanding colleague, actively participated and provided excellent leadership to the NCRA from 2006-2018 by serving as MRC Chair in 2010, NCRA Chair-elect in 2011, and NCRA Chair in 2012, as well as Administrative Advisor to NCAC4 and NC1173. He championed cutting the bureaucracy and minimizing the red tape with all processes. In addition, Marc was engaged with the University-Industry Consortium, North American Agricultural Biotechnology Consortium, served on the executive board of the Walnut Council and the advisory board for the USAID Soybean Innovation Lab Project and initiated and served as Chair of the Pine Wilt Disease Working Group of the International

Union of Forestry Research Organizations. In addition to his research responsibilities, Linit concurrently served as the Associate Dean for Extension.

Dr. Linit had a distinguished career for nearly 40 years at the University of Missouri. He led an active research program on forest insect ecology, focusing on the interspecific association between the pinewood nematode and its insect vectors, while also teaching an undergraduate class in forest entomology and a graduate course in insect ecology. He authored more than 60 peer reviewed scientific publications. Dr. Linit was also a founding member of the Center for Agroforestry at the University of Missouri with research interest involving the effect of landscape diversification on arthropod communities through the addition of trees to agricultural landscapes. He served as the Director of Graduate Studies of the Entomology Department and then as the Director of the Division of Plant Sciences. Prior to his retirement, was appointed as interim vice chancellor and dean, a fitting capstone to his MU career.

Linit earned a B.G.S. from Ohio University, an M.S. from the University of Maine and a Ph.D. from the University of Arkansas.