MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE FACULTY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

ON THE DEATH OF ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR EMERITA JULIA BROWN

Associate Professor Emerita Julia Brown passed away on September 6, 2004 in Madison, Wisconsin. Born in Hackensack, New Jersey in 1929 she received her B.S. from Douglas College, her Masters in Education from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro and her Ph.D. from the University of Southern California. She began her teaching career in 1951 at Mount Holyoke College. From 1965 to her retirement in 1994 she was a professor, first in the Women’s Physical Education Department and then in what is now the Department of Kinesiology.

Her areas of study as seen in her research, publications, presentations and workshops were international sports, women in sports and relaxation techniques. She was particularly dedicated to curriculum development in the activity program for college-level adults and was a strong proponent for the inclusion of relaxation and stress reducing techniques and course work in the Physical Education Activity Program. Her concern with the history and documentation of issues and activities in her areas of study resulted in national award winning videos on physical education for the university student and physical education in China. As historian and archivist for the Wisconsin Section of the American Camping Association she recently completed a video charting the history of camping in the state. An early advocate of women’s issues on campus, her influence was felt through her participation in equity and affirmative action committees and her promotion of women’s sports.

Although she coordinated different aspects of the general physical education and dance programs at various times, her primary administrative role was as the coordinator of the physical education elective course program. Through her efforts the program increased in breadth and depth. Thousands of students benefited from her dedication to initiating, developing and offering courses with the highest quality in content and instruction.

A world traveler, Professor Brown studied and lived in Scandinavia and Europe and toured New Zealand, India, Australia, Greece, Egypt, Italy, Mexico and Japan. She was a member of the United States Olympic Kayak Committee and traveled to Munich in 1972 and Montreal in 1976. She was privileged to be one of the first few Americans to visit Russia and China when their borders were reopened. Because of her special affection and affiliation for China, she led study tours in 1981 and 1983 and revisited the country in 1986.

As an activist and humanitarian she was involved in numerous charitable organizations including the Altrusa International Professional Women’s Service Club, the Shelter for the Homeless through Madison Urban Ministries, and Hancock Center for the Movement Arts and Therapies.

Professor Brown led many lives: a professor, an athlete, a pilot, an author, an advocate and a visionary. She was an adventurer with a strong spirit and a generous heart. The words of UW Professor LiLi Ji at her memorial service pay her tribute. “Julie was a well-respected scholar and a true professional. She had a deep interest in and profound knowledge of the historical aspects of sports and physical activities, particular women in physical education. She was one of the few people I knew who could connect today’s sociological framework of sports with its founders and intelligently elucidate their influences and contributions. She left for us a tremendous amount of collections, data and scholastic work that she so dearly put effort in for her lifetime. I am especially grateful that Julie had shown an unwaned interest in my home country China. She was among the first group of American scholars and educators to visit this just newly opened land and, with her embracing attitude and unique diplomatic style, won the hearts of my fellow countrymen. Julie had established close and lifetime friendship with some influential people

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in China and earned an unforgettable legacy on the page of Sino-American relationships in sports and physical education. So here, I take the liberty to represent all Chinese who had closely associated with Julie professionally or on the personal level, to say a final goodbye and thank you.”

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
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