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

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITA DOROTHY J. DOUGLAS

Dorothy Jean ‘D.J.’ Douglas, professor emerita of the School of Nursing, died in Madison, Wisconsin on February 10, 2010 at the age of 82. She was born April 29, 1927, in Portland, Oregon. Professor Douglas held a master’s degree in sociology and nursing and earned a PhD in medical sociology from the University of California-Davis. Prior to coming to Madison, she was an associate professor at the University of Iowa Medical School and director of the Family Practice Research Unit. Throughout her academic career, her research, teaching and service focus was on quality of patient care and delivery of emergency care services. During her tenure at the University of Wisconsin, Professor Douglas distinguished herself as a dedicated teacher and a pioneer in the introduction of information technology in our classrooms and work environment. Her university service extended to the Office of Risk Management where she was instrumental in setting standards for the University Aircraft Pilot Program. Professor Douglas retired from the university in 1999.

Professor Douglas regarded her teaching as her scholarship and was always looking for innovative approaches to helping students learn. She developed innovative models for precepting students in complex clinical sites, notably emergency care situations. This model of clinical teaching greatly expanded the depth of “real life community experiences” available to students.

Professor Douglas was instrumental in helping faculty to appreciate the use of information technology in the classroom. An early adopter, she introduced word processing and the use of email to the School of Nursing faculty well before it was a standard of campus life. She adapted interactive computer programs to facilitate student mastery of content and required the use of the internet for accessing information, again well before this was the standard of educational processes.

Professor Douglas’ career touched many students and faculty colleagues, she was daring and innovative and will be remembered for her sense of adventure.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
Linda Baumann
Patricia Lasky, chair