Memorial Resolution of the Faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison
On the Death of Professor Emerita Marilyn A. McCubbin

Marilyn Ann McCubbin, Professor Emerita of the School of Nursing, an internationally recognized scholar died in Madison, Wisconsin March 3, 2018, at the age of 78. Marilyn grew up on a farm in Nebraska, earned Bachelor’s, and Masters' degrees from the University of Nebraska and a PhD in Family Science from the University of Minnesota. Professor McCubbin was a member of the School of Nursing faculty at UW Madison from 1986 to 2001, when she accepted a position at the University of Hawaii. During her tenure at the University of Wisconsin,

Professor McCubbin distinguished herself as a dedicated teacher and researcher. As a researcher, she is best known for reformulating our understanding of families experiencing crises, pioneering the concept of family resilience, and family hardiness. Her work provided the foundation for clinicians working with families experiencing high levels of stress. She can be credited with shifting how families under stress are viewed, approached and supported in many clinical settings, recognizing this as a time for creating positive change and improved family functioning. Professor McCubbin’s work, particularly her family hardness scale, continues to be used by researchers and clinicians around the world.

With federal funding, Professor McCubbin led the development of the graduate program in community health nursing and for many years both taught courses and advised students in the community health program. Professor McCubbin's public service built on her research accomplishments, serving on state and local public health advisory bodies aimed at improving support and targeting interventions to families experiencing crises. Professor McCubbin's was a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and was awarded Distinguished Alumnus from the University of Nebraska, College of Nursing. She was highly regarded by the faculty and her students.