

A Memorial Resolution for Brooke Sheldon

Whereas Brooke Sheldon, Dean Emeritus from the University of Texas at Austin, died on February 11, 2013;

Whereas she graduated from Acadia University with a bachelor of arts degree, a master's degree from Simmons College, and her doctoral degree from the University of Pittsburgh;

Whereas she began her career at the Detroit Public Library, moved to the Albuquerque Public Library as a Branch Librarian, to the Santa Fe Public Library as Children's Coordinator, and then to the New Mexico State Library serving as Director of Library Development. At the Alaska State Library she was Head of Technical Services and Training. She was Associate Director for Training at the Leadership Training Institute (funded by the U.S. Department of Education) at Florida State University;

Whereas she, while earning her PhD degree, served as Director of the Management Institute for State Library Agency Heads (a project funded by the National Commission on Libraries and Information Services);

Whereas she began her work in library education as Dean of the School of Library and Information Studies at Texas Woman's University and served as Acting Provost; she became Dean at the University of Texas, Austin, and after she retired served as Interim Director, The University of Arizona, School of Information Resources and Library Studies where it was noted that "She saved the school." She then accepted a teaching assignment in the Executive MLIS program at San Jose State University both onsite and online, and she ended her teaching career as Visiting Scholar in the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Alberta;

Whereas she was honored by Simmons and the University of Pittsburgh with their distinguished alumni awards and was further honored by Acadia University with a Doctor of Civil Laws (Hon.), as Outstanding Lecturer, San Jose State University, the Professional Service Award from the Association of Library and Information Science Educators, and the Library Leadership Award from the Arizona Library Association;

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Whereas the Brooke E. Sheldon Endowed Professorship in Management and Leadership has been established at the University of Texas at Austin;

Whereas she contributed to the American Library Association as its President, Executive Board, and Council; as Chair of the Committee on Accreditation, and Head of the ALA Strategic Planning Process and in numerous other roles;

Whereas she, with Elizabeth Stone, founded the Continuing Professional Education Round Table for the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions;

Whereas she advocated the leadership role of those in the library and information science profession through co-founding Snowbird and through her publications, *Interpersonal Skills, Theory and Practice: The Librarians Guide to Becoming a Leader* and *Leaders in Librarians: Styles and Strategies for Success*;

Whereas she served as consultant to public libraries here and abroad and made speeches throughout the U.S. and internationally at the 50th anniversary of the Taipei Library Association and at the 80th anniversary of the Wuhan School of Library Science;

Whereas she was recognized for her support of diversity in her efforts to help students find scholarships and when hiring of faculty and staff. She was known for her welcome to all who came to social events in her home. When REFORMA held its first national conference in Austin, she opened her home to Reformists for a congratulatory reception. She was always so supportive of the efforts of REFORMA;

Whereas her overwhelming characteristic was her strength of personality vis a vis her friends, students, colleagues, and mentees to whom she expressed her heartfelt thanks to the many students and colleagues who recently wrote to her describing how her leadership and mentorship was instrumental in advancing their careers;

Whereas her love of travel was interwoven with her professional interests and demands as she gave speeches and consulted in numerous countries including: China, Taiwan, England, France, Argentina, Romania, Sweden, Germany, and Japan, and one of her great pleasures in retirement was to travel with friends to exotic locations around the world; and

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Whereas she was known for hosting spectacular parties for friends, students, and colleagues garnering her a reputation as a fun loving, free spirit who had an instant rapport with anyone she met: now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the American Library Association, on behalf of its members:

- (1) recognizes the remarkable achievements of Brooke E. Sheldon as a leader and educator in the profession and acknowledges her many contributions to her colleagues, friends, faculty and students;
- (2) conveys sincerest sympathy to the Sheldon family, her two sons, Scott and Stephen and their wives, Susan and Maria, her three grandchildren, Matthew, Brooke, and Skye, and to her sister-in-law (Mrs. Leonard Earle, Jr.), her brother, John, and her sister, Barbara Hunter and brother-in law, Eugene Hunter;
- (3) contributions in her memory be sent to the Brooke E. Sheldon Endowed Professorship in Management and Leadership at the School of Information Sciences, University of Texas at Austin; and
- (4) the copies of this resolution be sent to her family and to Dr. Andrew Dillon, School of Information Sciences, University of Texas at Austin.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Tuesday, July 2, 2013
in Chicago, Illinois



Keith Michael Fiels
ALA Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council