

Memorial Resolution**Michael L. Tracy**

January 19, 1938 – July 10, 2020

Michael L. Tracy was born in Chicago, Illinois on January 19, 1938 and died in Bloomington, Indiana on July 10, 2020. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in speech science from John Carroll University in 1962, a Master of Science in special education from Northeastern Illinois University in 1966, and a Ph.D. in educational psychology from the University of Michigan in 1969. Prior to his academic career, Mike served served two years in the U.S. Coast Guard and spent 6 years as a special education teacher in the Chicago school system.

Mike began his academic career at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill in 1969-1970, working with the National Training Labs (NTL) to advocate for the integration of special education students into regular education classrooms. In 1970-1972, as an assistant professor at the University of Michigan, Mike co-directed, with William C Rhodes, the Conceptual Project in Emotional Disturbance. That work resulted in co-editorship with Rhodes two significant books on theory and interventions, entitled *A Study of Child Variance, Volume 1: Conceptual Models; Volume 2: Interventions*.

He joined the faculty at Indiana University in 1972 where he taught for 44 years. In 1972, Mike was invited by then President Nixon's office to join in the planning of the 1973 White House Conference on the Status of Children. He co-edited the final report with the Honorable James Delaney of Colorado. His initial appointment at Indiana University was as an assistant professor in school psychology and as a psychologist at the Developmental Training Center (DTC), a University Affiliated Facility (UAF) specializing in training and services for children and adults with developmental disabilities. In 1974, he accepted a joint appointment at Riley Children's Hospital to coordinate training between the two UAFs.

The passage of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 put responsibility on the states to move people out of state hospitals. This led to the Deinstitutionalization Project in 1975. Mike directed a pilot project that brought clients from Indiana's state hospitals to the DTC as a half-way home while they were being integrated into their families and communities. This experience made possible the Consumer Grant, a national training project in the 50 states and territories. Mike was the director and principal investigator of the project. He supervised the development of the training materials, identified nationally prominent training leaders, and supervised and conducted training for the members of each state Developmental Disabilities Council and associated state employees.

During his 1981-82 sabbatical, he was appointed to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Evaluation within the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) and the Urban Institute. Assisted by the state governments of California, Georgia, and Massachusetts, a team composed of the Urban Institute, the Department of HEW, and the state employees of the divisions of developmental disabilities and mental health, Mike helped develop a model data structure to identify the prevalence and incidence of developmental disabilities.

Back in Indiana, he designed the Case Conference IEP Project to provide accountability and advocacy for parents of children with special needs. The purpose of the project was to develop training materials to assure that school districts in Indiana were in compliance with the standards in 94-142, of the 1975 Education for All Handicapped Children Act. That law required the states to provide a free, appropriate education for all students with disabilities in compliance with federal laws and regulations. In the

following three years, the Case Conference Project trained each special education unit in Indiana to the required legal standards. Mike conducted over 60 mandated mediation sessions between school districts and parents to assure the implementation of these standards. He continued to work at the DTC until 1989.

In anticipation of his return to the education faculty, Mike used his 1989 sabbatical study to seek additional training in working with families of emotionally handicapped children under the supervision of the Adler Family Institute in Chicago.

He then joined the counseling psychology faculty at Indiana University for the 1990-91 academic year. In the counseling program, Mike directed the Center for Human Growth from 1993-2000. He was the coordinator of the EdS degree program (certification for licensed mental health counselors) up until his retirement. His primary teaching responsibilities in the Counseling Psychology program included the supervision of practica and teaching personality assessment. Through most of his career, Mike maintained a small but ongoing clinical practice. He was of the opinion that direct contact with clients made him a better supervisor and grounded him personally. His special practice interest was clinical hypnosis. As a member of the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis (ASCH) since 1972, he increased his clinical skills annually through ASCH's continuing education and supervision. As evidence of the relationship among his clinical practice, teaching, and conceptual research, during his 2007 sabbatical leave, in consultation with Okafur S. Palsson of the University of North Carolina School of Medicine, Mike asked his clients to submit to magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans before and after hypnotic treatment. Clients who responded successfully to hypnotic treatment demonstrated increased blood flow to the anterior cingulate cortex (ACC), a part of the brain researchers associate with hypnosis.

Mike brought several credentials to his professional practice, including current licenses as a health service provider in psychology (HSPP), marriage and family therapist (MFT), registered family mediator, and licensed school psychologist. In addition, he was certified as a master neurolinguistic programmer (NLP) and had training certification as a consultant for ASCH.

He is survived by his wife, Suzanne Sturgeon and his children, William D. Tracy, Michael L. Tracy, Jr., Matthew B. Tracy (Jenny), and Patrick S. Tracy, as well as his grandson, Bolton W. Tracy, all of whom he loved dearly and who loved him.

Mike was a beloved professor with a kind heart and incredibly supportive approach to education. His cheerful personality and willingness to help others will be deeply missed. As a respected and admired colleague, he is irreplaceable.

We request that this memorial tribute to Michael L. Tracy be presented to the members of the Bloomington Faculty Council, that it be preserved in its minutes and archive, and that after its presentation copies be sent to the members of his family.

Lynn Gilman

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