MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

Marianne Helen Mitchell

(1937-2022)

Marianne Helen Mitchell was born in Toledo, Ohio on April 8, 1937, to Frank H. and Helen B. (Metzger) Mitchell. Her mother was a bookbinder; her father, a sales representative. She attended public schools in Toledo. Marianne's work ethic began early and lasted long. From eleven to eighteen years old, she worked in a bakery and pharmacy, had a newspaper route (the first girl in Toledo to have one), and was a lifeguard. The bakery was located next door to her house, and Marianne brought home warm bread. As a teenager, she started an aquatics program for handicapped people. In high school and college, she swam competitively. During this time, she was a national champion in synchronized swimming.

After graduating with a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Toledo, Marianne taught English in a secondary school in Toledo. One day a student in her class brought a gun to school and was suspended. When he returned, Marianne told him to write about his life. His words moved her, and she began talking to the boy. He eventually graduated and turned his life around. Inspired by her contact with him, Marianne changed her direction as well.

In 1961, she earned her master's degree in counseling and guidance, and a doctorate in counselor education in 1964, both from the University of Toledo. In 1964, she began her career as an assistant professor of counseling and guidance at Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. In 1966, Indiana University hired her as an assistant professor of education. She fell in love with IU and never left. Toward the end of a joyful 20-year retirement, she looked back on her career and said, "At Indiana University, if you can dream it, you can do it."

Marianne dreamt big and accomplished much. She was the first woman hired for a tenuretrack position on the counseling faculty in the Indiana University School of Education. She taught courses on group counseling, career counseling, professional ethics, values clarification, and counseling practicum and internship. Besides textbook authorship, her research focused on group counseling, international counseling, and women's development. An internationally recognized authority on counseling and guidance, she was a leader in women's athletics during the Title IX era and national president of the American Counseling Association 1991-1992.

Author of thirteen textbooks with career-long colleague and friend, Robert L. Gibson, Marianne specialized in the practice of counseling and guidance, school counseling, management of counseling programs, and the counselor and human sexuality. Gibson and Mitchell published the leading textbooks in their field for 25 years. Robert Gibson was her professor at Toledo.

The reach of Marianne's service and research was global. She helped establish counselor education programs in Scotland and Bermuda and co-directed those programs for 25 years. She published comparative studies of the academic achievement of elementary school pupils in the United States and the British Isles and was director and principal investigator of a study of counseling and pupil-personnel services in Europe and the United States.

Marianne served as project associate, director, or principal investigator on eleven funded projects, including studies sponsored by the United States Office of Education, the State of Indiana, and the Ford Foundation. Her investigations ranged from evaluations of vocational education and opportunities for women in higher education to reducing school drop-out rates.

Besides presiding over a national counseling association, she consulted with the Scottish Council for Research in Education, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Beijing Normal University, and the Technical and Educational Research Center of Harvard University. In 2015,

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the Ministry of Education and the Department of Education of Bermuda recognized her for exemplary service and guidance to Bermuda.

Her service included membership on five faculty governance committees in the School of Education, board membership of the Center for Human Growth, and membership on seven campus-wide committees, including the University Names Committee. She chaired the NCAA Equity Committee (IU's NCAA accreditation committee) 1995-96 and served as a member of the National Board of Directors of the IU Varsity Club 1986-92.

Marianne was a tireless advocate and role model for women in athletics, the female professoriate, professionalization of counseling students (particularly in elementary and secondary schools), and the mental health and social well-being of all people. She believed in reaching beyond national borders to provide counseling services and establish counselor education programs. She never abandoned her work ethic as a child nor her capacity to assist people in need.

She was one of the lucky ones. She capped a successful, thirty five-year professional career with a fun-filled, twenty-year retirement. After international posts in Scotland and Bermuda, years of teaching and research, leadership of a large national organization, and many travels in Europe and the United States, Marianne loved nothing more than to sit beside her pool and watch children swim. Vigorous and independent, she was surprised by a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer three months before she died. She accepted the reality of death with typical realism and good humor, saying, "It happens to the best of us."

She is survived by her brother Robert F. Mitchell; niece, Linda Tucker; and nephews, David Mitchell and Robert F. Mitchell, Jr.; all of California. She was preceded in death by her nephew, Tom Mitchell. In addition, she has left behind a worldwide neighborhood of friends. We request that this memorial tribute to Marianne H. Mitchell be presented to the members of the Bloomington Faculty Council, that it be preserved in its minutes and archive, and that copies be sent to members of her family.

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