


DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**REPORT OF THE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION COMMITTEE FOR
VIRGUS R. "RAY" CARDOZIER**

The special committee of the General Faculty to prepare a memorial resolution for Virgus R. "Ray" Cardozier, Professor Emeritus, Department of Educational Administration, has filed with the Secretary of the General Faculty the following report.



Alan W. Friedman, Secretary
General Faculty and Faculty Council
The University of Texas at Austin
Arthur J. Thaman and Wilhelmina Doré Thaman Professor of English and Comparative Literature

**IN MEMORIAM
VIRGUS R. "RAY" CARDOZIER**

Virgus R. "Ray" Cardozier, Professor Emeritus of Educational Administration at The University of Texas at Austin, passed away in Austin, Texas, on November 2, 2014, after a long and distinguished career as a higher education scholar, leader, and public servant. Throughout his remarkable career, Dr. Cardozier built an admirable legacy that spanned military service, work in the private sector, and leadership roles in higher education, and concluded with a significant scholarly impact at UT Austin.

Dr. Cardozier was born on April 2, 1923, and reared on a farm in north central Louisiana, the son of James C. and Lelia Megison Cardozier. In June 1940 he entered Louisiana State University (LSU) where his studies were interrupted in May 1943 when his entire class of advanced ROTC cadets were called to active duty in the Army and sent to the South Pacific Theater. After the war, he returned to LSU to complete a Master's Degree in 1949 and then went on to Ohio State University where he completed his Ph.D. in 1952. He also did postdoctoral studies at the University of Michigan and the University of California at Los Angeles.

Dr. Cardozier's higher education career included academic and administrative roles at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, the University of Maryland, The University of Texas of the Permian Basin in Odessa, and finally at UT Austin. In 1957, he joined the University of Tennessee at Knoxville as Associate Professor in the College of Education; in 1960, he moved to the University of Maryland, where he served as Professor and Department Chairman for ten years. In 1970, he was appointed Vice President for Academic Affairs for the newly authorized University of Texas of the Permian Basin (UTPB) in Odessa, Texas. Four years later, he was named President, a position he held for almost eight years.

Upon Dr. Cardozier's departure from the UTPB Presidency in 1983, he was appointed Professor in the Department of Educational Administration in the College of Education at UT Austin. His initial assignment was as the Director of the fledgling doctoral program in Higher Education Administration, where he developed courses on the "History of Higher Education" and "International and Comparative Higher Education," among others. Dr. Cardozier's scholarly research focused on contemporary challenges in higher education leadership as well as international higher education. He was author or co-author of ten books primarily focused on these themes.

Dr. Cardozier became the first full-time faculty member specializing in higher education leadership and administration at UT Austin, and thus he became the *de facto* founder of the Higher Education Administration Program, now the Program in Higher Education Leadership. He served the University and its students admirably for over a decade until his retirement in 1996. As Professor Emeritus, he continued to serve as a valued resource for our students and faculty until his passing in 2014.

Prior to his passing, Dr. Cardozier was recognized and honored for his important legacy as the founder of our

program. In 2012, the faculty of the program memorialized his contributions by naming the Alumni Excellence Award in his honor. Every year, we award the Dr. V. R. Cardozier Alumni Excellence Award to a deserving graduate of our Program in Higher Education Leadership. This occasion allows our current students, faculty, and staff to honor a distinguished graduate of our program as well as to pay homage to the significant legacy that Dr. Cardozier left behind.

Dr. Cardozier is survived by his wife of sixty years, Nancy Pattison Fyfe, an artist and graduate of the Art Institute of Chicago.

This memorial resolution was prepared by a special committee consisting of Associate Professors Victor B. Saenz (chair), Pat Somers, and Richard J. Reddick.

Distributed to the dean of College of Education on February 9, 2017, and posted under “Memorial Resolutions” at <https://wikis.utexas.edu/display/facultycouncil/Wiki+Home>.