The special committee of the General Faculty to prepare a memorial resolution for Natalie Carter Barraga, professor emerita, College of Education, Department of Special Education, has filed with the secretary of the General Faculty the following report.

Dean P. Neikirk, Secretary
General Faculty and Faculty Council

IN MEMORIAM
NATALIE CARTER BARRAGA

Natalie Carter Barraga, professor emerita of special education at The University of Texas at Austin, died on Monday, December 29, 2014. She was ninety-nine years old. Born in Troy, Texas, on October 10, 1915, to Grovie and Bascom Carter, she was the fourth of five children. She earned a bachelor's degree in home economics and child development from the University of North Texas (North Texas State Teacher's College) in 1938; a master's degree in educational psychology-special education from The University of Texas at Austin in 1957, and a Doctor of Education from George Peabody College of Vanderbilt University in 1963, where she was honored as a distinguished alumna in 1988.

Barraga joined the faculty at UT Austin in 1963 where she advanced to professor of special education in 1971, and retired as professor emerita in 1984. In addition to numerous Who's Who in America and the World, she received national and international awards from all professional organizations of which she was an active member: International Association for Education of the Visually Impaired (ICEVI); Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER); American Foundation for the Blind; American Printing House for the Blind; National Association of Parent of the Visually Impaired; Council for Exceptional Children; Delta Kappa Gamma Society International; American Academy of Optometry; and the American Optometric Association. Dr. Barraga was a member of the honor societies of Phi Kappa Phi, Kappa Delta Pi, and Pi Lambda Theta.

During her teaching career, she conducted pioneer research that demonstrated the effects of visual intervention with students who have low vision. As a result of her research, professionals became aware of the importance of encouraging visual usage by children with low vision. Barraga developed low vision assessment instruments and instructional materials for students with low vision, including the Visual Efficiency Scale (American Printing House for the Blind, 1970), which was widely used by teachers of students with visual impairments. She taught courses and held seminars and workshops for teachers in twenty-two different countries around the world. She was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to spend a semester doing research and lecturing at the University of Zagreb in Croatia in 1986. Barraga was active in several international organizations and her writings and materials are used all over the world. Her publications included books, monographs, book chapters, and numerous articles in professional journals. In 2002 she was among the first group of inductees into the Hall of Fame for Leaders and Legends of the Blindness Field, a highly selective body that recognizes exceptional professionals. Her autobiography, entitled If Anyone Can, You Can, was published by the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired in 2007. Barraga remained active in professional endeavors through 2014, reviewing the preliminary version of the new Barraga Visual Efficiency Program (BVEP), which is scheduled for release by the American Printing House for the Blind in 2015. Special gratitude goes to all her former students who were her pride and joy as they have assumed leadership roles in their professional lives.
This memorial resolution was prepared by a special committee consisting of Professors Randall M. Parker (chair), and Jane N. Erin.

Distributed to the dean of the College of Education on March 25, 2015, and posted under “Memorials” at http://www.utexas.edu/faculty/council/.