IN MEMORIAM

ANNA BRIGHTMAN

The late Anna Brightman was Professor Emeritus of the Department of Home Economics. She died Sunday, November 4, 1990 at age 69. During her career she was active in numerous organizations. Dr. Brightman was a founding member of the Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC), the professional organization for Interior Design educators, and served as IDEC President from 1969-1971. Following her Presidency, she served as Chairman of the Board of IDEC for one year and was selected as one of the first IDEC Fellows in 1977 in honor of her outstanding contribution to Interior Design education.

Dr. Brightman also was one of the founders of the Foundation of Interior Design Education Research (FIDER), the accrediting agency for programs of Interior Design. She coauthored the first written guidelines for the accrediting of Interior Design programs.

She served as a FIDER Trustee from 1971 to 1978. She was made an honorary member of the American Society of Interior Designers in 1979, was a member of the Texas Association of College Teachers, the Heritage Society of Austin, The American Home Economics Association, Omicron Nu, Tau Sigma Delta, and Tau Epsilon.

Dr. Brightman grew up in Syracuse, New York, where her father was Professor of Physics at Syracuse University. She received the Bachelor of Fine Arts in 1943 and Master of Fine
Arts degree in 1951 from Syracuse University. She attended graduate school at Cornell University and earned her Ph.D. in 1962 with a major in Interior Design and a minor in American Studies from Florida State University.

Between her Bachelor's and Master's degrees she worked as a display artist and interior furnishings coordinator for Paine and Forbes & Wallace furniture companies in Boston and Springfield, Massachusetts. One of her lifelong activities developed in Boston where she enrolled in sailing lessons on the Charles River. Sailing was a family tradition passed down from her sailor grandfather and shared with her sister Charlotte Stone of Chicago. After she moved to Austin, Professor Brightman kept a small sailboat at her cottage on Lake Buchanan.

In 1946 Dr. Brightman moved to Austin where she began her career on the Interior Design faculty in the Department of Home Economics at The University of Texas. She entered the University as Instructor and Head of the Division of Interior Design. In 1950 she was promoted to Assistant Professor. In 1954 she was promoted to Associate Professor and she became full Professor in 1967. She served as Head of the Division of Interior Design from 1946 to 1980. In 1981 she took a leave of absence from her teaching position until her official retirement in 1987, when she has named Professor Emeritus.

Dr. Brightman taught classes in the areas of advanced Interior Design and historic furniture and the decorative arts. Her research focused on the area of historic American furniture
and furnishings. She studied artifacts at American museums with outstanding collections such as Winterthur, Cooper Union, and Colonial Williamsburg, and the Victoria and Albert in London, and the Museum of Decorative Arts in Paris.

She worked with Professor Wayne Bell of the UT School of Architecture on the Winedale restoration, and she was a member of friends of Winedale. Professor Brightman also contributed many valuable historic fabrics to the Clothing and Textiles fabric collection in the Department of Human Ecology.

Dr. Brightman traveled extensively throughout Europe, including England, France, Italy, Austria, Germany, Denmark, Norway and Sweden, where she acquired considerable reference and illustrative materials for teaching and research in historic interiors. A love of travel took her on many excursions, from Africa to South America.

Sally Beth Moore, former Head of UT's Child Development Program, was Professor Brightman's companion and friend for many years. They shared a love of dogs and enjoyed the company of many friends from the Department of Home Economics. Special friends were Carol and Jim Wallace, one time Interior Design colleagues who consider "Ann" Brightman as a member of the family. Their oldest daughter, Anna, was her namesake, and their second daughter, Katie, a godchild. Carol Wallace cared for Professor Brightman in her last years, and they shared many holidays in the Wallace home.
Dr. Brightman published a number of articles in the *Journal of Home Economics* and the magazine *Antiques*, and her creative work was published through Laguna Gloria Art Museum and the Texas Fine Arts Association Circuit Tour. In 1960 she developed the preservation leaflet, *Window Treatments for Historic Houses, 1700-1850*, for the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Anna Brightman was a beacon in Interior Design education. Her efforts helped to standardize the profession and she made a significant contribution to the study of historical interiors. She influenced a whole generation of Interior Designers in Texas, and they carry her vision into the future.
This Memorial Resolution was prepared by a Special Committee consisting of Professors Nancy Kwallek (Chairman), Nan Norvell, and Rochelle Conway.