DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

REPORT OF THE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION COMMITTEE FOR
ROYAL BURDICK EMBREE JR.

The special committee of the General Faculty to prepare a memorial resolution for Royal Burdick Embree Jr., professor emeritus, educational psychology, has filed with the Secretary of the General Faculty the following report.

John R. Durbin, Secretary
The General Faculty

IN MEMORIAM
ROYAL BURDICK EMBREE JR.

Royal Burdick Embree Jr., professor emeritus of educational psychology at The University of Texas at Austin, died October 16, 1984.

Royal was born in Bristol, Virginia, on May 20, 1909. He spent his formative years in Lynchburg, Virginia, graduating from Episcopal High School in 1926. Upon graduation from high school he attended Washington and Lee University graduating with a BA in psychology in 1929. He spent the following year (1930) at Ohio State University earning an MA in English. From 1930 to 1933 he was a teacher at Shenandoah College in Dayton, Virginia. He then assumed the position of psychologist at the Connecticut School for Boys. His next position was as a counselor at University High School and Minnesota General College. From 1941 to 1947, he served as director of counseling and teacher of psychology at the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia. He was on military leave to the U.S. Navy from 1943 to 1946 working in personnel research, and saw combat during World War II. Upon completion of his PhD at the University of Minnesota (1947), he left the College of William and Mary to assume the position of associate professor of educational psychology at The University of Texas at Austin. He was the first director of the Educational Psychology Master of Education School Counselor Program, serving in this capacity from the program's inception in 1951 until his retirement in 1978. He was promoted to professor in 1970, when he was also appointed as director of the Psychology Doctoral Training Program in Educational Psychology Counseling. He was the program's director until 1976.

Royal was a pioneer in the development of the Texas Personnel and Guidance Association and became its first president. Additionally, he was instrumental in organizing the Texas Association of Counselors, Educators and Supervisors and in 1981 received special recognition by the Texas Personnel and Guidance Association and Texas Association of Counselors, Educators and Supervisors for his pioneer work and many long years of service. From 1959 to 1966 he operated eleven National Defense Education Act Institutes for counselors (under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Education). In 1951 he was responsible for developing the first certification program in Texas for the preparation of school counselors. During his tenure at The University of Texas at Austin he supervised over 40 PhD dissertations and more than 150 master's reports and theses. He was named a fellow of the Division of Counseling Psychology of the American Psychological Association. Royal perceived very early in his career that counseling was and would become an important adjunct to education. As a teacher, a counselor, a professor, a colleague, and as a person, he strove to epitomize this belief and perception. He cared little for personal recognition but relished the accomplishments of others. There can be little doubt that much of the recognition he received was due to his single-minded devotion to counseling and its professional development. An endowed presidential scholarship, funded by his students, colleagues, family members, and others who were familiar with his work, has been established in his name.

This memorial resolution was prepared by Associate Professor Emeritus Richard Mowsesian (chair).

Distributed to the Dean of the College of Education, the Executive Vice President and Provost, and the President on August 2, 2000. Copies are available on request from the Office of the General Faculty, FAC 22, F9500. This resolution is posted under “Memorials” at: http://www.utexas.edu/faculty/council/