The special committee of the General Faculty to prepare a memorial resolution for Anna Marie Stengel, assistant professor, general business, has filed with the secretary of the General Faculty the following report.

John R. Durbin, Secretary
The General Faculty

IN MEMORIAM
ANNA MARIE STENGEL

Anna Marie Stengel, a faculty member at The University of Texas at Austin from 1958 to 1984, passed away June 15, 2002.

Anna, one of three children of Marguerite and Carl Stengel, was born on September 23, 1926, in Austin, Texas. She graduated from Austin High School in 1943. For a time, she and her family lived in the house that is now occupied by the East Side Cafe, on Manor Road.

In 1943, Anna enrolled as a business education major in the College of Business Administration at UT Austin, receiving a BBA degree in 1950. During this period she was employed as a part-time clerk in the Texas Department of Education (1944-1945) and as a full-time stenographer by the Texas Department of Welfare (1945-1947).

Upon graduation from the University, she held a number of teaching positions at various high schools (East Bernard High School 1950-1953, Mason High School 1953-1954, Lampasas High School 1955-1956, and in the Austin Public Schools 1956-1958), teaching primarily bookkeeping, typewriting, and shorthand classes.

In 1952, Anna enrolled in the Graduate School of Business MBA program. Because of her teaching commitments at the various high schools, she was unable to complete her MBA (major in business education) until 1959.

In 1958, she was offered the position of special instructor in business services at The University of Texas at Austin by then Chairman Leo G. Blackstock and Dean J. Arch White. She accepted this appointment at a nine-month salary of $4,000, teaching four secretarial study classes per semester.

Her love for teaching, advising, and working with students was exhibited throughout her entire twenty-six years as an instructor and assistant professor at UT. She volunteered to teach every summer session while at UT; served as sponsor or co-sponsor of Pi Omega Pi Fraternity (Undergraduate Business Education Teachers) for approximately twenty-five years; served as president, secretary, treasurer of Delta Pi Epsilon Fraternity (Graduate Honorary Business Education Teachers) for about the same length of time; worked for years with the University Scholastic League in preparing copy for and directing district, regional, and state typing and shorthand contests; worked with the Texas Business Education Association in various capacities, including its legislative committee and the setting up of a one-year business program in high schools; held or participated in a number of workshops for business education teachers and secretaries both here in Austin and throughout the state of Texas. Her file is filled with laudatory letters thanking her for her participation in the above activities.

In 1965, Professor Stengel was promoted from special instructor to instructor and in 1972, because of her teaching excellence and service to her profession, she was promoted to the rare rank of assistant professor with tenure, a rank she held until her retirement in 1984. It was also during this period that Anna started to teach business communications courses, thus extending her teaching excellence into three areas – office administration, business education, and business communications.

In October 1974, Professor Stengel was named winner of the District 13 Business Education Teacher of the Year Award of the Texas Business Education Association. She was also the Department of General Business
nominee for the Jack Taylor Teaching Award (for undergraduates) in the College of Business Administration four times. Some of her student evaluations ranked her in the top one percent among all instructors the students had at UT.

Probably the best testimony to Anna’s twenty-six years at UT are comments in letters written by her colleagues, students, and administrators. To list excerpts from all in her file would make this memorial resolution into a small book. A few, however, are illustrative.

From Colleagues
Anna Stengel is an outstanding teacher in the true sense of the word. She prepares her classroom material thoroughly and is always searching for additional material to make the class more interesting and valuable to the student. She gives time to her students whenever they need it whether for class related situations or for personal situations.

Her special talent, as I have been told by innumerable students, is her extraordinary ability to humanize the educational process. She is evidently one of the few among us who draw forth students’ best efforts less by imposing rigid standards than by inspiring their confidence.

In her quiet, patient, unobtrusive way, Anna has been an outstanding teacher in the department for many years. Her lectures are of substantial content in an area that is basically very important (business communication) but not genuinely loved or appreciated.

Students
I have known for years that I will work many times harder for an instructor who takes a personal interest in my work. Your personal interest in me has made my enthusiasm in the course easy.

If more classes were conducted in this manner, I feel students would become more interested in the content of the course.

Overall I have really enjoyed this course, and more important I have learned something.

I really appreciate your taking such an interest in your teaching instruction methods. You have really stimulated my interest in teaching for my career.

Business Communication is one of the best courses offered at the University. The material I learned from the course will aid me tremendously in whatever job I may undertake. You made it very enjoyable, and believe me, this semester I needed a class like this. What can I say? Well, at no other time have I ever had a teacher that took a greater interest in students than you have! It amazes me how you are always willing to help (no matter how often!). The lessons I have learned from your class will be beneficial my entire business career… Someday when you see me at the top of the business world you can proudly say “I had a part of making him what he is today.”

Administrators
Lawrence Buford – Director of Secondary Education – Austin Independent School District: There has never been a better supervisor of student teachers than Anna. She is the model that I use when I advise new supervisors of the most effective student teacher supervision. Anna takes great pains to let student teachers know what is expected of them and then, through a program of education, visitation, and conferences, helps them grow into teachers.

William J. Lord, Jr. – Chairman of the General Business Department: She regularly receives high evaluations from her students for her teaching effectiveness and there is a big student demand for her courses.

Professor Stengel also served on a number of college and university committees, including the Financial Aid Committee, Committee on Teaching Effectiveness, University Council on Teacher Education, CBA
Commencement Committee, and Senate 8 Committee. She also served as Coordinator for Business Education/Office Administration Division.

Anna’s parents and her brother Arnold predeceased her. She is survived by her brother Bobby and his wife Beverly Stengel.

This memorial resolution was prepared by a special committee consisting of Professor Emeritus Gaylord A. Jentz (chair), Professor Emeritus Charles T. Clark, and retired staff member Ms. Margaret Cox.

Distributed to the dean of the Red McCombs School of Business, the executive vice president and provost, and the president on October 28, 2002. 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/.