DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

REPORT OF THE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION COMMITTEE FOR
DEE ANN STORY

The special committee of the General Faculty to prepare a memorial resolution for Dee Ann Story, professor emeritus, anthropology, has filed with the secretary of the General Faculty the following report.

Sue Alexander Greninger, Secretary
The General Faculty

IN MEMORIAM
DEE ANN STORY

Dee Ann Story, professor emeritus in the Department of Anthropology, died December 26, 2010, at the age of 79 in Wimberley, Texas, after a lengthy and courageous battle with cancer. Professor Story became assistant director of the Texas Archeological Salvage Project at The University of Texas at Austin in 1962. She was a lecturer in the Department of Anthropology at UT Austin from 1963 to 1965, an assistant professor from 1966 to 1972, an associate professor from 1972 to 1978, and became a full professor in 1978. In 1987, she was awarded the professor emeritus distinction. Dee Ann also served as the director of the Texas Archaeological Research Laboratory from 1965 to 1987. She had an accomplished career in archaeology, teaching and publishing many articles and monographs on Texas archaeology. She also directed many major archaeological research projects in Texas, for which she received numerous awards and honors.

Professor Story was born to Emma and Eugene Suhm in Houston, Texas, on December 12, 1931, and was preceded in death by her husband, Hal Story, whom she had married in October 1961, as well as her parents and her sister, Beverly Morgan. She is survived by four nephews: Clayton Morgan, Tim Morgan, and Matt Morgan, all of Austin, and Russell Morgan of Houston. She lived most of her adult life in Austin and retired to Wimberley in 1987.

Dee Ann attended Texas Women’s University in Denton, Texas, and completed her undergraduate degree in anthropology at UT Austin in 1953. She was awarded her master’s degree from that same institution in 1956. Dee Ann received her doctoral degree in anthropology from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1963. While at the University of California, she worked with Jesse Jennings at the Glen Canyon Archeological Project in Arizona and Utah, serving as assistant director, while doing fieldwork and directing the laboratory.

Her main archaeological interests were the ancestral Caddo culture of East Texas and, later in life, the Archaeological Conservancy on whose board of directors she served with distinction. She was a member of a number of national and regional professional societies, including the American Anthropological Association, Society for American Archaeology, Society for Historical Archaeology, Plains Anthropological Society, Arkansas Archaeological Society, and Texas Archaeological Society. She was awarded the Curtis D. Tunnell Lifetime Achievement Award, the Excellence in Archeology Award, and the Award for Historic Preservation, all from the Texas Historical Commission. She was a past president and a fellow in the Texas Archeological Society where she also received the Lifetime Achievement Award. She received awards of recognition from the Archeological Conservancy, the Houston Archaeological Society, and the Society for American Archaeology for outstanding contributions. In addition, she was awarded the Betty Lee Wright Award for Democratic Leadership from the Wimberley Democrats.

As a teacher and mentor, Dee Ann made a profound impact on the lives and careers of her master’s and doctoral students. She chaired the committees of many of today’s leading archaeologists who are recognized at both the state and national levels. The courses she taught in basic anthropology and archaeology, as well as those in archaeological field methods, were demanding and competitive. Students who took her summer field courses were heavily recruited around the country due to the skills she taught. Like any outstanding teacher, mentor, and educator, her guidance and influence changed the lives and career directions for many of her students who have gone on to other universities and agencies across the country, carrying on her remarkable legacy.
Dee Ann moved to Wimberley upon retirement and became active in the Wimberley Institute of Cultures, Wimberley Players, and Wimberley Democrats. She was a major participant in the development of a Wimberley historical archive. She was charitable throughout her life and split her substantial personal library among the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory at UT Austin, Texas State University, and individuals. She financially supported the Archaeological Conservancy and also donated an easement to an archaeological site on her property in Wimberley to the Conservancy.

At the time Dee Ann entered the field of archaeology, it was dominated by men, with very few women. Despite this imbalance, she not only persevered, but she became a distinguished archaeologist and scholar, and she opened the door for many young women to become professional archaeologists as well. Dee Ann's work ethic was legendary, and it rubbed off on all of her students. Her students gained a sense of pride and discipline, and she taught them how to present themselves as professional archaeologists. She connected with her students in a way that gained her their utmost respect and admiration and was truly a teacher's teacher. Her contributions to The University of Texas at Austin, North American archaeology, the Archaeological Conservancy, and the lives of her former students and her many friends will stand as her lasting legacy.

This memorial resolution was prepared by a special committee consisting of Professors Darrell Creel (chair), Thomas R. Hester, and James A. Neely.

Distributed to the dean of the College of Liberal Arts, the executive vice president and provost, and the president on May 13, 2011. This resolution is posted under “Memorials” at: http://www.utexas.edu/faculty/council/.