DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

REPORT OF THE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION COMMITTEE FOR
JACK L. WHITEHEAD

The special committee of the General Faculty to prepare a memorial resolution for Jack Lindsay Whitehead, former associate dean, communication, has filed with the secretary of the General Faculty the following report.

Sue Alexander Greninger, Secretary
The General Faculty

IN MEMORIAM
JACK L. WHITEHEAD

Jack Whitehead, former associate dean, College of Communication and associate professor, Department of Communication Studies, died May 18, 2004, in Austin, Texas. He was born June 30, 1943. Professor Whitehead received his B.A. from Louisiana State University in 1965 and his M.S. from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1966. He was awarded a Ph.D. from Indiana University in 1969. That same year, he joined what was then the speech communication faculty at The University of Texas at Austin, where he taught for twenty-eight years. Professor Whitehead was an excellent teacher and administrator and led his department and college toward technological modernization, such as using the computer for managing student records. In recognition of his interest in campus life, Jack was chosen by students in 1991 to be an honorary member of Golden Key, a campus honor society that recognizes academic excellence.

Jack was the author of a number of articles and technical reports on small group and linguistic communication. He, along with Frederick Williams and Leslie M. Miller at the Center for Communication Research, worked on a major grant in 1971 from the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare entitled, *Attitudinal correlates of children's speech characteristic*. The next year, he, along with Dennis F. Blosser and Benjamin W. Barnes, published a technical report through the Center for Communication Research entitled, *Nonauditory effects of noise: a selected annotated bibliography II*. Jack co-authored a textbook in 1979 with Robert Hopper entitled, *Communication concepts and skills*. In 1984, Jack edited a book entitled, *Readings for business and professional communication*. Jack’s strongest belief was in the power of individual motivation, which is apparent in his originating a course on communication and salesmanship that remained a significant part of the undergraduate curriculum at the time of his passing.

Jack took particular joy in making his expertise available to the public and was a consultant to a number of Texas organizations over the tenure of his professorship. His consultation focused on how to use communication to accomplish tasks, such as managing organizational difficulties, increasing sales, and improving customer service. His clients included such diverse groups as the Texas Nursing Home Association, Texas Land Title Association, The Texas Association of Realtors, U.S. Civil Service Commission, Texas Electric Cooperatives, Texas Department of Public Welfare, Menswear Retailers of America, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, ALCOA Corporation, and Southern Union Gas Co.

Early on during his time in Austin, Jack established himself as an avid fisherman and a shucker of oysters. Jack’s wide ranging interests led to his involvement in the world of commerce, and this meant that his friends and students were always hearing about investments and had access to antique furniture and new and used cars. Jack loved buying and selling, and he was generous with the opportunities that passed his way.
This memorial resolution was prepared by a special committee consisting of Professors Larry Browning (chair) and John Daly.

Distributed to the dean of the College of Communication, the executive vice president and provost, and the president on December 22, 2004. 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/.