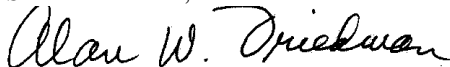


## DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**REPORT OF THE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION COMMITTEE FOR  
ROBERT E. BAYS**

The special committee of the General Faculty to prepare a memorial resolution for Professor Robert E. Bays, School of Music, has filed with the secretary of the General Faculty the following report.



Alan W. Friedman, Secretary  
General Faculty and Faculty Council  
The University of Texas at Austin  
Arthur J. Thaman and Wilhelmina Doré Thaman Professor of English and Comparative Literature

**IN MEMORIAM  
ROBERT E. BAYS**

Robert E. Bays, who served as Chair of the Music Department at The University of Texas at Austin from 1969 to 1974, was born in 1921 in Bonne Terre, Missouri. He died peacefully on October 6, 2015, in Atlanta, at the age of ninety-four. Bob, as he was known, was the son of a minister and had one sibling, a brother who predeceased him. He served in the United States Navy in World War II, and, following the war, married Cleis Eileen Armour of Fort Scott, Kansas. They remained together for fifty-two years until her death in 1998, leaving behind two daughters and a granddaughter.

Bob earned degrees from Emporia State University, Teachers College of Columbia University, and George Peabody College (now part of Vanderbilt University). He enjoyed a career as a Professional Musician and as a University Professor and Administrator at three institutions: George Peabody College in Nashville, The University of Texas at Austin, and The University of Illinois at Champaign/Urbana. He became Chair of the Music Department at Peabody and went on to become Professor of Music Education and Chair of the Department of Music at UT Austin, succeeding Bryce Jordan in the latter position. In 1974, he was called to become Director of the School of Music at Illinois, where he remained until his retirement in 1986. A conductor as well as an accomplished French hornist, he served as principal horn for both the Wichita and Nashville Symphony Orchestras. He also did contract work as a studio musician while in Nashville.

Throughout his career Bob was active as a consultant to colleges and universities, to departments of education in several states, and to the Bureau of Higher Education in the U.S. Department of Education. From 1979 to 1982, he was President of the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM), the national accrediting agency for academic music programs. He also served as a member of the Academic Music Panel of the International Communication Agency of the United States State Department.

Bob and Cleis moved back to Austin after his retirement and spent a number of happy years as participants in Austin's musical life before moving to Atlanta to be near family. At UT Austin, Bob was respected as a Chair who strove to balance the interests and needs of a gifted faculty with diverse disciplines in academic and performance areas, supporting, for example, the move of Gilbert Chase's *Annuario* from Tulane to UT where it remained for several years until it ceased publication. This important venture helped to foster close ties to the Latin American Institute and strengthened the Department's ethnomusicological interest. He presided over the Music Department during a crucial period when it was scattered all over the campus while plans were being formulated and implemented for a new home on the east side where it would be centralized and ultimately become a School of Music.

This memorial resolution was prepared by a special committee consisting of Professors George Frock (co-chair), Rebecca Baltzer (co-chair), and John Grubbs (co-chair).

Distributed to the Dean of the College of Fine Arts on July 17, 2018, and posted under "Memorial Resolutions" at <https://wikis.utexas.edu/display/facultycouncil/Wiki+Home>.