

## DOCUMENTS AND MINUTES OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

REPORT OF THE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION COMMITTEE FOR  
GORDON V. ANDERSON

The special committee of the General Faculty to prepare a Memorial Resolution for Gordon V. Anderson, Professor Emeritus, Department of Educational Psychology, has filed with the Secretary of the General Faculty the following report.

H. Paul Kelley, Secretary  
The General Faculty

IN MEMORIAMGORDON V. ANDERSON

Gordon Anderson was born on April 6, 1910, in Wausa, Nebraska, and died on March 13, 1991, in Austin. He spent his school days in Wausa, graduating from Wausa High School in 1926. Gordon received his A.B. degree in Education from Augustana College in 1932. Prior to graduation, he worked as a reporter and editor for the Wausa Gazette for more than two years. After graduation, Gordon taught high school social science and music for two years in Hazleton, Iowa, before returning to Nebraska to edit the Wausa Gazette from 1934 to 1936. On November 28, 1935, he married Atha Grothe, who was his wife for the remainder of his life. They had two children: a son, Roger, and a daughter Sally.

From 1936 to 1941, Gordon worked for the Nebraska State Employment Service, in Norfolk and in Lincoln, and worked on his Master's degree in psychology at the University of Nebraska. He received the M. A. degree in 1940 and moved to Minneapolis the following year to begin work on his doctorate. He received the Ph.D. degree from the University of Minnesota in psychology, with a minor in educational psychology, in 1945. During his college years at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, Gordon was awarded membership in several honorary societies. Later, he received Augustana College's Outstanding Alumnus Achievement Award.

Gordon's early professional work in psychology was in guidance and counseling, an interest which would hold his attention throughout his career. At Minnesota he was Clinical Fellow and Assistant to the Director of the Student Counseling Bureau for one year, and he became its Acting Director in 1943, a position he held until 1945. Although he had not yet received his doctorate, he was also appointed Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology from 1943 to 1945. The dual responsibility Gordon accepted as a faculty member and as an administrator early in his career became a pattern that characterized his professional life.

After graduation, Gordon and his family moved to Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, where for two years he was Assistant Professor and Director of Graduate Training in Personnel Work, Division of Correlated Studies. In 1947, Gordon accepted a position at The University of Texas as Assistant Director of the Testing and Guidance Bureau, the precursor of the current Counseling and Mental

Health Center and the Measurement and Evaluation Center. A joint appointment as Lecturer in Educational

21039

Psychology came with the Assistant Director's position, and Gordon soon became an integral part of the Department of Educational Psychology. In 1953 he was awarded tenure and appointed Associate Professor of Educational Psychology. During this time he was also doing research under contract with the U.S. Air Force and was visiting professor for three summers in California: one each at the University of California, Berkeley; University of Southern California; and University of California, Los Angeles.

In 1958 Gordon was appointed Director of the recently-renamed Testing and Counseling Center and Professor of Educational Psychology. At around this time, he was instrumental in developing the doctoral program in Counseling Psychology; he chaired the interdisciplinary committee that established the program, and he was its first director. In 1965, in addition to continuing as Director of the Testing and Counseling Center, Gordon was appointed Chair of the Department of Educational Psychology. In 1967, when the Testing and Counseling Center was split into what are now the Measurement and Evaluation Center and the Counseling and Mental Health Center, Gordon became full-time Chair of Educational Psychology. His colleagues were quick to note that it took two directors to replace Gordon in the new Centers (Gordon himself once wryly observed he would have been happy to have had double compensation along with the dual responsibilities). Gordon served as Chair of Educational Psychology from 1965 until 1972, with one year off (1969-70) when he directed a test development program for CTB/McGraw-Hill in California. Retiring from the chair's position in 1972, Gordon continued to teach until his retirement from the Department in 1979.

Gordon's research interests were in guidance and counseling, especially with applications of test information. He developed a number of aptitude tests for the Air Force and also tests for use in career counseling. His research was published in Personnel and Guidance Journal, Review of Educational Research, College and University, Educational and Psychological Measurement, Journal of Applied Psychology, American Journal of Psychology, and other journals. He was widely sought as a reviewer of tests and also served on the editorial boards of several journals. He was active in state and national professional organizations. With Ira Iscoe, Wayne Holtzman, and others, he helped found the Texas Psychological Association, serving as its president in 1951. He was president of the American College Personnel Association from 1953-1955, and president of the Southwestern Psychological Association in 1957. He was a Fellow of the American Psychological Association and Diplomate in Counseling Psychology, American Board of Examiners in Professional Psychology (now the American Board of Professional Psychology).

An active member of the Lutheran Church throughout his life, Gordon served several terms on the First English Lutheran Church Council, taught Sunday school, and directed his church's Christian education program. He was a member for several years of the Synod's Commission for Professional Leadership, and he served terms on the Board of Directors for Central Lutheran Seminary and The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago.

Gordon also loved music and was an accomplished clarinetist. In college he had participated with the band on tour of the eastern United States, Sweden, and Denmark. Later, he would find employment and satisfaction in playing in community bands.

Gordon Anderson was a highly intelligent, well-rounded individual, who was admired and respected by all who knew him. His open-mindedness and friendly demeanor complemented his high personal standards. His death is a loss for all of us, but his life is an example that remains.

This Memorial Resolution was prepared by a special committee consisting of Professor Edmund T. Emmer (Chair), Professor H. Paul Kelley, and Professor Beeman N. Phillips.

Distributed to Voting and Emeritus Members of the faculty of the Department of Educational Psychology, the Dean of the College of Education, the Executive Vice President and Provost, and the President on August 31, 1995.