

DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**REPORT OF THE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION COMMITTEE FOR
ROBBIN COLYER ANDERSON**

The special committee of the General Faculty to prepare a memorial resolution for John Robbin Coyer Anderson, professor, chemistry and biochemistry, has filed with the Secretary of the General Faculty the following report.

John R. Durbin, Secretary
The General Faculty

**IN MEMORIAM
ROBBIN COLYER ANDERSON**

Robbin Colyer Anderson, of Fayetteville, Arkansas, died Saturday, January 22, 2000, at Washington Regional Medical Center in Fayetteville, at the age of 85. He was born June 8, 1914, in DeRidder, Louisiana, to Ward and Elizabeth Richardson Anderson.

Professor Anderson was educated in the Lake Charles, Louisiana, public schools, and received baccalaureate and master's degrees from Louisiana State University and a doctorate from the University of Wisconsin. He married Margaret (Peg) Ball in 1946 in East Lansing, Michigan. He taught physical chemistry at The University of Texas at Austin from 1939 to 1967. He was department chairman from 1945 to 1950. He was also graduate advisor in the department. He served as head of the Academic Institute Program of the National Science Foundation in 1960-61.

In 1967, Professor Anderson moved to Fayetteville to become dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and professor of chemistry at the University of Arkansas. He was a member of the American Chemical Society, Sigma Xi, and the Fayetteville Rotary Club. He served as president of the Texas Academy of Science, the Arkansas Academy of Science, and the Arkansas Association of Deans. He was a member of the Central United Methodist Church in Fayetteville.

On a less formal basis, he enjoyed playing tennis frequently with a group from the chemistry department—Norman Hackerman, Al Matsen, and Tom Morgan. The same group, joined by other campus associates, savored 5-cent coffee at 10 a.m. on most mornings at a suitable coffee shop. After leaving the University in 1967, Professor Anderson continued the morning sessions on his occasional visits to Austin.

He was survived by his wife, Margaret (Peg) Ball Anderson; three sons, Charles Ward and his wife, Linda Mahaffey Anderson, of Okemos, Michigan, Robbin Bruce and his wife, Elizabeth Lysinger Anderson, of Houston, and Richard Ball and his wife, Karen Imhoff Anderson, of Weston, Connecticut; and seven grandchildren.

This memorial resolution was prepared by a special committee consisting of Professors Leon O. Morgan (chair), Gerhard Fonken, and Norman Hackerman.

Distributed to the Dean of the College of Natural Sciences, the Executive Vice President and Provost, and the President on April 18, 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/>.

Principal Books and Manuals

Technical Writing (with Gordon H. Mills). New York: Holt, Rinehart, 1954, revised edition, 1962.
Technical Report Form. Austin: University Co-op, 1954, revised 1962.
Technical Reports Manual. Austin: Military Physics Research Laboratory, 1956.
The Writing of MPRL Reports. Austin: Military Physics Research Laboratory, 1956.
Usage and Misusage in Technical Writing. Dallas: Texas Instruments, Inc., 1958.
Proposal Writing. Dallas: International Data Systems, Inc., 1963.
Style, Form, and Usage in Technical Writing. Dallas: Texas Instruments, Inc., 1959.
Careers in Technical Writing. Washington, D.C.: Society of Technical Writers and Publishers, 1966.
Glossary of Technical Writing Usage. Austin: Texas Water Development Board, 1967.

Selected Articles and Essays

“Footnote and Fancy Free,” *Journal of Engineering Education*, 37 (December, 1946), 356-58.
 “Communications Deficiencies of Senior and Graduate Chemical Engineers,” *Journal of Chemical Education*, 29 (August, 1952), 402ff.
 “The Technical Editor” (with Gordon H. Mills), *Chemical Engineering*, 60 (August, 1953), 250-56.
 “Technical Writing Training in Industry,” *Technical Writing and Editing Journal* (Fall, 1956), 24-27.
 “Supplements to the Technical Report,” *Petroleum Refiner*, 39 (December, 1960), 116-21.
 “Industrial Publications,” *STWP Proceedings* (1969), 56-67.
 “Some Shibboleths in Teaching Technical Writing,” *Journal of Technical Writing and Communication*, (1971), 1-12.
 “Usage and Style in Technical Writing: A Realistic Position,” *The Practical Craft*, ed. W. Keats Sparrow and Donald H. Cunningham. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1978, pp. 90-99.
 “ATTW: In Retrospect and in Prospect,” *The Technical Writing Teacher* 7 (Spring, 1980), 91-94.

Editorships

Contributing Editor, *Technical Writing Review*, 1955-56.
 Consulting Editor, *STWP Review*, 1964-69.
 Special Edition Editor, *STWP Review*, January 1966 issue.
 Consulting Editor, Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 1954-1965.