

**MEMORIAL RESOLUTION**  
**PROFESSOR EMERITA MYRTLE MARION SCOTT**  
**(February 4, 1937 – January 17, 2016)**

Myrtle M. Scott, Professor Emerita of Educational Psychology and Herman B. Wells Endowed Professor, was born February 4, 1937 in Monahans, Texas and died January 17, 2016 in Kerrville, Texas. She grew up in the Permian Basin oilfields of west Texas. She received her bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry from Hardin-Simmons University in 1959 and a master's in psychology from North Texas State University in 1961.

Myrtle worked as a school psychologist for the Houston Independent School District from 1961-1965, when she decided to pursue a doctorate. She completed her PhD in psychology at George Peabody College of Vanderbilt University in 1969. Her first post-PhD position was director of planning and evaluation for the Coordination Center of the National Laboratory for Early Childhood Education, then located at the University of Illinois. In 1970 she moved to Indiana University as an associate professor.

At Indiana Myrtle was charged with the creation of a new program combining child development, education, and public policy. The Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program on Young Children operated under her direction from 1972 to 1978. It produced a number of PhDs who became prominent scholars and/or policy makers.

Administrative appointments included Associate Dean for Research in the School of Education and later Associate Dean of the Graduate School. She was promoted to full professor in 1981.

Throughout her career, Myrtle was active in faculty governance. She served in many capacities in the Faculty Council, including president in 1990-91. Her major issue was intellectual property rights. She worked to develop a set of principles that reaffirmed the basic mission of the university as academic (as opposed to commercial), reaffirmed the importance of independence for faculty in developing new ideas, and proposed basic cooperative, collaborative stances for faculty, administrators, and trustees to guide the university in these areas. She was honored with the Distinguished Service Award for the Bloomington Campus in 1998 and the university-wide W. George Pinnell Award for Outstanding Service in 1999.

Professor Scott taught mainly in two areas, child development and ecological psychology (the influence of environment on behavior) for most of her thirty-two years at Indiana University. She received awards for distinguished teaching at both the School of

Education and the university/campus level. She was well known for her dissertation supervision. She directed or co-directed thirty-three dissertations during her career, three of which received outstanding dissertation awards.

Her research and theoretical work dealt primarily with ecological psychology. This work focused on the influence of the environment on human behavior and development. She published numerous articles and chapters during her career. Her final works, which continued after her retirement in 2002, involved interpretation of the work of Roger Barker, father of ecological psychology.

Although she received many honors during her career at Indiana University, the most meaningful to her was being named the first Herman B. Wells Endowed Professor (December 2000). She retired from Indiana in 2002 and moved to Kerrville, Texas in 2004 to be near family. Even in retirement she continued her allegiance to Indiana University by supporting Emeriti House and working on the Emeriti Oral History Committee.

She is survived by her sister, Beverly Scott of Georgetown, Texas and her partner of fifty-three years, Susan Eklund of Kerrville.

I request that this memorial be presented at a meeting of the Bloomington Faculty Council, that a copy be preserved in its minutes and archives, and that a copy be sent to her sister, Beverly Scott.

Susan Eklund  
Emerita Professor Education  
Indiana University Bloomington