

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

MARIAN WILLIAMS (1916 – 1963)

Marian Williams was born in Wilmington, Ohio. She received the B. A. degree from Scripps College in 1937, the M.A. degree in Physical Therapy in 1943 from Stanford and the Ph.D. degree in Anatomy in 1956. Her professional life was devoted primarily to the field of physical therapy. She received a certificate in physical therapy from the Children's Hospital in Los Angeles in 1938, and her first position was at the Carrell-Girard Clinic in Dallas, Texas. From 1939-1941, she was a member of the physical therapy staff at Children's Hospital in San Francisco, She served on the Stanford faculty from 1942 until the time of her death on April 14, 1963. Her teaching and investigation were done in both the Division of Physical Therapy where she was an associate professor and in the Department of Anatomy where she was an assistant professor. Her research was primarily in the testing areas of physical therapy and in biomechanics related to functional anatomy. Financial assistance for her work was made available by the Easter Seal Foundation, the Physical Therapy Fund and the National Foundation.

High among her professional talents was her excellence as a teacher. She was unceasingly dedicated to the pursuit and practice of the art of educating; her approach to teaching was creative, lucid and stimulating. Her warmth, kindness and deep concern for the welfare of her students were evident to all who knew her.

Dr. Williams was the author of numerous articles and co-author of two basic textbooks in physical therapy, "Muscle Testing" and "Therapeutic Exercise in Body Alignment and Function". She recognized the need for integrating knowledge accumulated by other scientific fields with that of medicine especially as applied to the critical evaluation and factual explanation for procedures used in physical therapy. This led her to collaborate with Herbert Lissner, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Engineering Mechanics at Wayne State University, in writing a textbook entitled "Biomechanics of Human Motion." Published in 1962, this volume interjects an invigorating note to the literature dealing with these problems and provides an important clinical tool which will be an aid in their solution.

She held numerous offices and the chairmanship of many essential committees at both the national and local level in her professional organization, the American Physical Therapy Association. She was an Associate Editor of the Journal of the American Physical Therapy Association. One expression of the high professional regard of her colleagues is contained in the following excerpt from an editorial which will appear in an early issue of the Journal:

For the Journal and for the profession, she demanded excellence; she gave quality. She asked forthrightness; she gave conviction. She asked exactness; she gave reasonableness. She asked resourcefulness; she gave stature. All of these were tempered with warmth and a sense of humor. Of such is the legacy of Dr. Williams to her profession.

Her survivors are her father, Dr. Joseph T. Williams, formerly on the faculties of Whittier College and Los Angeles City College, and her mother, May T. Williams, both of Santa Barbara. She has one brother, Dr. Robert M. Williams, Professor of Business Administration at the University of California in Los Angeles. To them, we of the Academic Council extend our deepest sympathy.

Lucille Daniels, Chairman
Marian Ruch
Donald James Gray