Memorial Resolution for John Lazenby

John Lazenby, Chair of the Secondary Division in teacher education at Wisconsin State College-Milwaukee upon his retirement in 1956, began teaching on this campus in 1923. At that time, Mitchell Hall housed all the academic departments plus the Campus Elementary School. Everyone on the faculty—from Art and Botany through Education, English, and Sociology—met at ten in the morning for coffee and conversation. It was an academic life which traveled at a much slower pace than now, and it had its advantages.

Professor Lazenby (BA from Indiana University, and MA from the University of Chicago) could discuss his students' academic progress while visiting over coffee with their other instructors. He worked mutually with his colleagues to produce only the highest quality secondary school teachers, restricting the total number of graduates to forty each year. Competition for places in his program was keen. It results in recognition of Milwaukee State Teachers College (and subsequently WSC-Milwaukee) as an institution whose secondary education graduates were sought after. Professor Lazenby was "Mister Teacher Education" in Milwaukee.

Professor Lazenby helped organize Beta Omicron, the local chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, a national honorary education fraternity. He was active in getting the Milwaukee State Teachers College accredited. He was a member of the Graduate Council and Coordination Committee at WSC-Milwaukee, the National Education Association, the Association for Student Teaching, the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the National Society of College Teachers of Education, the American Federation of Teachers, and Phi Delta Kappa.

He helped organized the Retired Teachers Organization at UWM after his retirement and served as its first president. He died on January 26, 1985 at 99.

John Stillman