Memorial Resolution

Leslie A. Blide, Ed.D., R.R.A., was an Associate Professor in the Health Information Administration Program and the Chairperson of the Department of Health Sciences in the School of Allied Health Professions at U.W.M. She died suddenly of a heart attack on April 8, 1995. She is survived by her daughter, Leslie (Gene) Wheeler of Scottsdale, AZ, and her mother, Mildred Wilcox of Ticonderoga, N.Y. She is also fondly remembered by her friends, coworkers and students at UWM.

Professor Blide received her Ed.D. in Leadership with a concentration in Software Engineering at Seattle University in 1986. She had a career in university teaching which spanned 17 years. She began her academic career in the Health Information Administration Department from Seattle University. She assumed the role of Chairperson of the Department in 1984. In 1985, she relocated to Northeastern University where she was an Associate Professor and Acting Director of the Health Information Administration Program before coming to U.W.M. in 1991.

Professor Blide's contributions to U.W.M. included her membership in the Administrative Staff of the School of Allied Health Professions. As chairperson of the department, she was instrumental in creating a policy on faculty development and instituting merit review criteria for faculty and academic staff. Within the school, she was chairperson of the Computer Policy Committee and responsible for the supervision of the student microcomputer laboratory. At the university level, she was a member of the Bookstore Committee and the Computer Policy Committee.

Professor Blide also provided consultation outside the university as a member of the information management team with Covenant Health Care. She was working with professional staff at the Medical College of Wisconsin on health information management projects and was about to embark on a project with Icare (Independent Care) regarding the confidentiality of medical records.

Professor Blide was very active as a member of the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA). She served as Chairperson of AHIMA's Council on Certification and was the first chair of AHIMA's Assembly of Education. In recognition of her leadership in establishing the Assembly, Dr. Blide received a Pioneer Award from AHIMA in 1993. Through her work as a Co-project Director for the entry level job analyses project, Dr. Blide was instrumental in defining professional competencies for health information practitioners. She also served as Book Review Editor for Topics in Health Record Management. She was widely known throughout the health information management educational community.

Professor Blide was a caring and concerned educator. She was highly respected by students. Through her personal interest and commitment to use of computers as tools for enhancing work and education, she made a significant contribution to the computer knowledge of students and colleagues. Her most recent and continuing contribution was expanding our world to the universe and beyond through the Internet and the World Wide Web.
Professor Blide's personal interests included a love of reading mystery novels, touring ethnic grocery stores and restaurants, and watching cooking shows. In retrospect, Professor Blide was a friend and colleague to all who knew her. She had so many ambitious ideas she wanted to start, but not the time to complete them. The task for the rest of us is to continue her excellent work in preaching the importance of computers toward making day-to-day living less difficult and more fun.

Belinda K. Brunner and Mary K. Madsen