Memorial Resolution
For
Professor Mary Pat Kunert, PhD, RN

Professor Mary Pat Kunert died suddenly on March 16, 2012 at the age of 62. Mary Pat was a registered nurse who devoted much of her early career to public health nursing. She went on to earn a Ph.D. in physiology from the Medical College of Wisconsin. She was a gifted researcher who used animal models to explore factors influencing cardiovascular diseases in humans. Her nursing background contributed to her creative thinking about the applicability of basic science approaches to clinical issues. She was the Founding Director of the UWM Biobehavioral Laboratory.

Mary Pat was a dedicated nurse educator who taught for 10 years at the Marquette College of Nursing and was a member of the College of Nursing at UWM until her death (2004–2012.) She taught at all levels of the curriculum and provided excellent mentoring to doctoral students. The first in her family to graduate from college, Mary Pat was a strong advocate for the college Nursing Endeavor Program which supports first generation college students to become successful professional nurses. Mary Pat contributed actively to the College of Nursing and the UWM campus community including serving as Vice-Chair of the CON Executive Committee (2005-2008), long time Chair of the CON Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (2005-2012) and the CON Subcommittee for Faulty Reviews (2004-2010.) She also served with distinction on the campus University Committee (2009-2012) where her quick wit and common sense were much appreciated by her campus peers.

An avid reader, animal lover, enthusiastic tennis player and giving friend, Mary Pat was also very committed to her family. She is survived by her partner, Nancy Snow, three sisters, a brother and many loving nieces and nephews. Her great intellect, compassionate spirit and hearty laughter will be greatly missed by all her UWM colleagues.

Submitted by: Sally Lundeen and Sarah Morgan
UWM College of Nursing