Memorial Resolution for Professor R. Dale Nance (1921-1975)

R. Dale Nance died on December 1, 1975. He is survived by his wife Lorna, by his daughter Judith, and by his sons Philip and Douglass.

Born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma in 1921, he received the B.A. degree with honors from Oklahoma State University in 1943, where he was elected to Phi Eta Sigma and Phi Kappa Phi. He was awarded the M.A. degree in 1943 and the Ph.D. degree in 1946 at the University of Iowa, where he was elected to membership in Sigma Xi, the science honor society. He joined the faculty of Milwaukee State Teachers College in 1946, and helped to found the present University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Psychology Department in 1956. He was an active participant in the growth and development of the department, the college and the university, making significant contributions in all the areas of teaching, research and service.

His interest in teaching and in students was paramount. He created new courses in child, adolescent and developmental psychology, and in the history of psychology which were attended by thousands of students over the years. He was elected a Fellow of the Division of the Teaching of Psychology of the American Psychological Association. He devoted considerable time to advising and counseling students on an individual basis. He helped organize the Counseling Office of the old Milwaukee State Teachers College, and more recently served on numerous committees to assist and advise students in both the Psychology Department and the College of Letters and Science.

Within the Psychology Department he directed the advising program for psychology majors and was responsible for organizing the department's chapter of Psi Chi, the psychology student honor society. He was also Chairman of the department's Graduate Admissions Committee, helping to insure the growth in both size and academic standards of the graduate program.

His research publications were extensive and varied, in keeping with his broad spectrum of interests, with publications in experimental, child, developmental and cognitive psychology, and the history of psychology. Manuscripts dealing with the history of psychology were in preparation at the time of his death.

He possessed strong editorial abilities, serving as Associate Editor of the journal, Perceptual and Motor Skills, and as an abstractor for Psychological Abstracts. He was called upon by publishers to assist in the editorial review of textbooks.

Dale was a kind, patient man, reserved in manner, whose calm presence and gentle wit were moderating forces in the counsels of the department. Perhaps what we shall more remember are the uncounted hours he devoted to his students, counseling, advising, encouraging and inspiring them to standards of excellence in both scholarship and conduct. He is missed by his students, his colleagues and his friends.

R. Dale Nance Memorial Resolution Committee
Alan Baron
Harry L. Madison (Chairman)
Herman Weil