

**MEMORIAL RESOLUTION OF THE FACULTY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON**

ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR EMERITA NORMA JANE KOLTHOFF

Norma Jane Kolthoff, professor emerita of the School of Nursing, died in Madison, Wisconsin on November 11, 2011 at the age of 90. She was born on August 15, 1921 to Clyde and Ruth (née Creager) Kolthoff in Chicago, Illinois. Always interested in science, Norma obtained her bachelor's degree in zoology in 1943 from North Central College in Naperville, Illinois. She then responded to the wartime effort and joined the Cadet Nursing Corps and enrolled in a nursing program for students who already had a bachelor's degree. She obtained her MS in nursing in 1945 from Case Western Reserve University. Her interest in science spurred her to continue her education at Indiana University, where she obtained an additional MS degree in zoology. She later enrolled at Boston University, and in 1964 became the first nurse in the U.S. to complete a PhD in physiology. Professor Kolthoff then took up a faculty position at Case Western Reserve University School of Nursing as one of the first doctorally prepared nursing faculty members in the country. There she launched her research program on blood flow rates and microcirculation, and gained national recognition as a teacher and a scientist.

In 1971 when Professor Kolthoff joined the faculty of School of Nursing at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, she contributed significantly to the development of the school's academic and research programs. She designed the first physiology research laboratory for the school and was instrumental in introducing research methodology at the undergraduate level. Professor Kolthoff was a major architect in the effort to establish the School of Nursing as one of the first research-intensive university nursing programs in the country. She was project director of the school's first institutional research development grant. In addition, she was an active participant on a number of university committees, including the Biological Sciences Divisional Committee. Several editions of Professor Kolthoff's textbook on introductory physiology were used in university nursing programs across the country. She was named a Helen Denne Schulte Professor of Nursing and was elected a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing. Professor Kolthoff received emerita status in 1987 and lived in Madison until her death in November 2011. In her retirement, Professor Kolthoff continued her support of the School of Nursing and the university through her philanthropy, and was a member of the Bascom Hill Society.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Patricia Lasky
Vivian Littlefield
Katharyn May