

Editorial

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Announcement

In recognition of her unique contribution to undergraduate research in psychology, the *Journal of Psychological Inquiry (JPI)* editors are proud to announce the commencement of the Elizabeth A. Dahl, Ph.D., Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research.

JPI's managing editor will evaluate contributions to each issue and determine any article that merits such recognition. Ordinarily there will be no more than one selection per issue, but there is no requirement that an award be presented for each issue. The author(s) of the selected article will receive a certificate containing the following information:

“This award recognizes the distinguished contributions of Dr. Dahl, who for 25 years as faculty member and chair of the Psychology Department at Creighton University, challenged, guided, and supported numerous undergraduate students in the design and execution of research, and the scholarly communication of results.”

Biography

Elizabeth A. Dahl, Ph.D. served the Creighton University faculty for 25 years beginning in 1971. She led the department as its chair from 1985 to 1991.

Before joining the department, Betty completed a bachelor degree in 1956 at Tabor College with emphases in music (concert piano) and elementary education. Subsequently, she worked in the Lawrence and Overland Park public schools as a teacher, school psychologist, and director of a gifted program. During those years, she also worked on and completed a master's degree in psychology from Kansas State Teachers College (Emporia State University) in 1959. Betty also raised four children and supported her husband, Carl, in completing medical studies and a plastic surgery residency. The culmination of her academic training consisted of obtaining a doctoral degree at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1977 with a concentration in developmental psychology.

During her tenure at Creighton, Betty was a tireless and humane mentor for students and faculty. Former students and faculty commented on Betty's contributions.

Each semester, I observed from 2 to 5 students trailing in and out of her office. The reason for this procession was Betty's strong dedication to involving students in all phases of research. Betty actively engaged students in conceptualizing the problem, collecting and analyzing data, and writing manuscripts and presenting results at psychology conventions.

She was compassionate and truly cared for students. She did not hesitate to go out of her way to help those needing assistance, putting in long hours and sacrificing free time for the sake of preparing for and attending conventions involving student presentations. I was continually amazed at her dedication and involvement in such activities.

Her interactions with students and the projects she undertook were always completed in a most ethical manner. She truly provided students with a most appropriate role model.

Among her professional contributions was Betty's unparalleled dedication to nurturing students' involvement in scholarly investigation. For the last 20 years of her time at Creighton, Betty sponsored 75 students who made 50 presentations in 10 different venues, including the American Psychological Association, Southwestern Psychological Association, Great Plains Students' Psychology Convention, and the National Building Family Strengths Conference. Even after her retirement, Betty provided financial support for student scholarship with her contributions to the *Journal of Psychological Inquiry*.

Mark E. Ware
Managing Editor