Memorial Resolution for Willis Bernard “Bill” Lukenbill

Whereas Willis Bernard “Bill” Lukenbill, Professor Emeritus from the University of Texas Austin died on Thursday, August 29 2019;

Whereas he received a bachelor’s degree in Education from the University of North Texas, an M.L.S. degree from Oklahoma University, a Ph.D. from Indiana University;

Whereas Bill began his career as a high school librarian in Seguin, Texas and later at Austin College in Sherman Texas;

Whereas he began his teaching career at Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, Louisiana; after completing his doctoral degree he joined the faculty in the College of Library and Information Services and the College of Education at the University of Maryland in College Park; he then joined the faculty at the School of Information at the University of Texas at Austin where he held several teaching and research fellowships including the Commons Research Fellowship;

Whereas Bill was a natural storyteller with a wonderful sense of humor; he presented often at local, state, and national association meetings; he traveled extensively to international conferences of organizations of librarians and information science professionals presenting juried poster sessions his research papers and other sessions often based on funded research projects; he continued to write and publish after his retirement;

Whereas Dr. Lukenbill was a prolific author of journal articles, numerous chapters in books, editor of two books, and author of eight books; the topics of his lectures, publications and presentations were in many areas of library science and social science including information organization and use, youth literature, popular culture, gay and lesbian studies, and HIV-AIDS information delivery within the library. Early in his career he edited two editions of Media and
the Young Adult (American Library Association) demonstrating his knowledge of the then separate audiovisual field. He is author of, among others, AIDS and HIV Programs and Services for Libraries (Libraries Unlimited), Biography in the Lives of Youth: Culture, Society, and Information (Libraries Unlimited), and Health Information for Youth with Barbara Immroth (Libraries Unlimited);

Whereas, Bill conducted many funded research projects and published the results of these; he also was a proposal reader for the Institute of Museums and Library Services; served as a consultant and expert witness.

Whereas Dr. Lukenbill enjoyed genealogy research and he volunteered as an archivist at the Metropolitan Community Church in Austin where he was involved in many activities and committed to his church.

Whereas he was actively involved in a number of associations including the Texas Library Association, Association for Library and Information Science Educators, the American Library Association, the American Association of School Librarians, and the Young Adult Library Services Association where he served on many committees.

Whereas Bill was an active member of many university committees, he chaired and served on dissertation committees; and he had a distinguished record of community service.

Whereas his collegiality, recognized by his colleagues in his doctoral program at I.U., his storytelling skills, his sense of humor, and sound advice will be missed.

Whereas any contributions in his name can be made to the Metropolitan Church of Austin, 8601 S. First St. Austin, TX 78745 or to a charity of one’s choice or one could choose to adopt a cat or two;

now, therefore, be it
Resolved, that the American Library Association, on behalf of its members

(1) recognizes the remarkable achievements of Willis Bernard “Bill” Lukenbill as a leader, educator, researcher, and author in the profession and acknowledges his many contributions to his colleagues, friends, faculty, and students;

(2) conveys sincerest sympathy to his wife, Shirley Lukenbill, his son, James and daughter-in-law, Julie, his two grandchildren, Aaron and Mia, his companion, Richard Hendler, his sister Barbara Franklin and his nephew Michael Franklin.

Moved by: Liz Philippi, ALA Councilor-at-Large

Seconded by: Sara Kelly Johns, ALA Councilor-at-Large