Memorial Resolution for Donald B. Cleveland

Whereas Donald B. Cleveland, Professor Emeritus from the University of North Texas died on April 17, 2019;

Whereas he served two years in the United States Army, received a bachelor’s degree from Howard Payne University, an M.L.S. degree from the University of Texas at Austin, an M.S. in computer science from Texas A&M and a Ph.D. in Information Science from Case Western Reserve University;

Whereas he began his career as the director of the Architecture Library at University of Texas at Austin, moved to become director of the Howard Payne University Library, and he served as head of acquisitions and later, public services at Sam Houston State University Library;

Whereas he began his work in library education at the then School of Library and Information Sciences faculty, University of North Texas. During his tenure there Dr. Cleveland designed and developed the internationally recognized Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program in Information Science.

Whereas he was honored by the Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T) with their Outstanding Information Science Teacher Award from the and the special president’s award for the design and implementation of the first interdisciplinary doctoral program in information science. He and his co-author received the Ida and George Eliot Prize from the Medical Library Association for their book, Health Informatics for Medical Librarians;

Whereas Dr. Cleveland was a prolific author of journal articles, textbooks, non-fiction young adult books, and novels. The topics of his publications, presentations, and grants included information retrieval, indexing and abstracting, medical informatics, cartooning, communication, and the brain. His textbook, Introduction to Indexing and Abstracting, co-authored with Dr. Ana Cleveland is a staple in the library and information sciences field;

Whereas he served as consultant to the World Health Organization and to both national and international organizations, such as the National Institutes of Health, Organization of American States, National Library of Medicine, American Heart Association, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Rockefeller Foundation, Texas Library Association, Texas Instruments, International Business Machines Corporation (IBM), Electronic Data Systems (EDS) among others. In his work funded by the World Health Organization, he developed a science and technology network for 17 African countries out of Senegal;
Whereas he was a visionary when it came to the role of information sciences in our society, his degree in computer science allowed him to have a perspective of the synergy between IT and our discipline. During his tenure at UNT, the Department had a truly information science-focused curriculum, including courses with a computer science content. He was devoted to the concept of interdisciplinarity and its implications to the profession;

Whereas one of his greatest legacies is the graduate students he mentored and taught throughout his career in information science;

Whereas he was actively involved and committed to the Denton community. Most recently, the Denton Health Community Clinic renamed their Community Health Achievement Award as the Don and Ana Cleveland Community Health Champion Award;

Whereas his collegiality, keen sense of humor, and sound advice will be missed; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the American Library Association, on behalf of its members
(1) recognizes the remarkable achievements of Donald B. Cleveland as a leader and educator in the profession and acknowledges his many contributions to his colleagues, friends, faculty, and students;
(2) conveys sincerest sympathy to Dr. Ana D. Cleveland, his wife of 52 years;
(3) contributions in his memory be sent to the Denton Community Health Clinic (http://www.dentonchc.org/)
(4) sends copies of the resolution to his wife, Dr. Kinshuk, Dean, College of Information, University of North Texas, and Dr. Jiangping Chen, Chair, Department of Information Science, University of North Texas.

Nominated by: Blanche Woolls, Retired, San Jose State University (408-655-4292)
Seconded by: Daniella Smith, University of North Texas (972-82705432)
Liz Phillipi, Texas State Library (281-814-5125)