

Memorial Resolution

Thelburn LeRoy Engle 1901-1994

In March 1979, the Department of Psychological Sciences at IPFW nominated Thelburn Le Roy Engle for the Gold Medal Award from the American Psychological Association. Roy did not receive the award, but the words of the fifteen year old nomination are just as cogent today.

"Dr. Engle was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, on September 28, 1901. He graduated from Indianapolis Manual Training High School in 1918 and earned an A. B. degree from Butler University in 1922. During the school year 1922 to 1923, Dr. Engle taught high school mathematics in Rochester, Indiana. In 1923, Dr. Engle attended Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, and in 1924, earned an M. A. degree. From 1924 to 1928, Dr. Engle taught high school mathematics in Farmington, Illinois, and from 1928 to 1930, he taught high school mathematics and psychology in Michigan City, Indiana. Thus, his interest in high school psychology has spanned fifty years.

"In 1931, Dr. Engle was again a student, this time at Indiana University, part-time. He was awarded a Ph. D. in psychology in 1937. In 1938, Dr. Engle accepted a faculty position at Indiana University's extension center in Fort Wayne, Indiana. His tenure at Indiana University continued until his retirement in 1972. During those years, Dr. Engle was promoted from Instructor to Full Professor and, in 1972, was named Professor Emeritus. During those years, the campus grew from an extension center to a four-year, accredited degree-granting institution. Dr. Engle's planning was very important in the development of the psychology degree program. During those Indiana University years, he served as visiting professor during summers at the University of Akron, Kent State University, and was appointed as a psychologist at the Fort Wayne State Hospital and Training Center.

"In 1954, Dr. Engle devoted his sabbatical to the study of the teaching of psychology at the high school level. This sabbatical was supported by a grant from the American Psychological Association.

"Throughout Dr. Engle's years as an Indiana University faculty member, he was elected by his colleagues to represent them on important committees in the University. Dr. Engle attended most meetings of the American Psychological Association, Midwestern Psychological Association, and the Indiana Psychological Association. In addition, he presented papers and held important committee responsibilities.

"Dr. Engle was and is highly regarded by his professional colleagues. Although he has retired from teaching, he has never retired from his scholarly work. Throughout his

life he has been a 'leading force' in developing psychology as an integral part of the secondary school curriculum. Dr. Engle wrote an outstanding textbook for secondary level instruction. Today, psychology is a part of many secondary schools' curricula, and his book remains the leading text. Over 1,000,000 copies of his text have been sold. When one considers that most textbooks at the secondary school level are rented for four to five years, his impact has been fantastic.

"Although Dr. Engle has retired, he and his wife still live near the campus. We have called on him for assistance in setting up a seminar for high school teachers and to lecture in our history of psychology classes. Dr. Engle's extensive publications further attest to his commitment and outstanding achievements in the profession. Truly, Dr. Engle is an outstanding person and has made an enormous contribution to his profession."

Dr. Engle is survived by his wife Eleanor and his children Charles, John, and William. Roy will live on in the hearts and minds of his family and friends forever.