Honorary Alumnus /Alumna

Dr. Anne Fry

With this presentation of Ohio Wesleyan’s Honorary Alumni Award, the Ohio Wesleyan Alumni Association Board of Directors is honored and privileged to recognize Dr. Anne Fry for her academic contributions and her long dedication to Ohio Wesleyan University.

Following receipt of her undergraduate degree from Mount Holyoke College, Anne enrolled in the University of Iowa’s Master’s program in Zoology. She began her teaching career at Carleton College. This fulfilling experience led the way to a lifetime of college teaching. Anne returned to school once more and completed a Ph.D. in developmental biology, with a focus on amphibian metamorphosis, at the University of Massachusetts.

In 1969, Anne joined the Ohio Wesleyan faculty. In 1999, she became the Helen Whitelaw Jackson University Professor of Zoology, a position she held until her retirement in 2004. Her first courses were Developmental Biology and a precursor to today’s Introduction to Cell Biology class. In acknowledgment of her work as a teacher and researcher, Anne became the youngest faculty member to receive Ohio Wesleyan’s Welch Meritorious Teaching Award, which is given to Ohio Wesleyan professors who have made a significant contribution to the academic climate at the University.

Anne has been published nine times. Her papers include “Effects of temperature on shortening of isolated Rana pipiens tadpole tail tips” and Histology and lectin-binding patterns in the digestive tract of the carnivorous larvae of the anuran, Ceratophrys ornata.” After her retirement, Anne also performed valuable volunteer service in the OWU Historical Collection in Beeghly. Performing archival work, she indexed the Ohio Wesleyan Magazine from 1917 to 2009 and prepared a list of faculty, trustees, and administrators from 1842 to the present.

In addition to the contributions mentioned above, she was active in backing student activities. Along with colleagues Lauren Wiebe and Ruth Bauerle, Anne supported the first student-initiated women’s studies course before the Women’s Studies program at Ohio Wesleyan was in existence. As a sports enthusiast and golfer, she was the first female faculty representative to the North Coast Athletic Conference.

In 1982, Anne became the Health Professions Advisor for the University. She improved the program’s organization and level of service. During the course of her academic career at Ohio Wesleyan, Anne gave valuable support to the school with her service on numerous University committees. Appreciated and lauded by students, faculty, and administration, she time and again demonstrated her steadfast commitment to the advancement and goals of the Ohio Wesleyan community.

For her inspiring dedication and service to the University and its students, we applaud and recognize Dr. Anne Fry with the Honorary Alumni Award.

May 16, 2015