9-1-2010

Kilstofte earns Guggenheim; Einstein named CUR Fellow

Furman University

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine

Recommended Citation

This Article is made available online by Journals, part of the Furman University Scholar Exchange (FUSE). It has been accepted for inclusion in Furman Magazine by an authorized FUSE administrator. For terms of use, please refer to the FUSE Institutional Repository Guidelines. For more information, please contact scholarexchange@furman.edu.
Kilstofte earns Guggenheim; Einstein named CUR Fellow

MUSIC PROFESSOR Mark Kilstofte and psychology professor Gil Einstein received major national honors this spring.

Kilstofte, a native of Denmark, earned a Fulbright Fellowship to study in the United States in 1991. He was selected the 2010 CUR Fellows. Winners have outstanding records of obtaining funding for collaborative research with students and have published research findings with undergraduate co-authors. They incorporate research activities into their courses and local efforts to institutionalize research on their campuses and across the nation.

Each recipient is awarded a CUR Student Research Fellowship, which goes to a deserving undergraduate at the CUR Fellow’s institution. In 1990, 96 he served on the Board of Governors of the National Conference on Undergraduate Research.

Duke Endowment awards $1 million to support sustainability

THE DUKE ENDOWMENT has awarded Furman $1 million grant to support the work of the David E. Shi Center for Sustainability.

The Shi Center promotes the study of sustainability both on campus and in the Greenville community. Located in Cliffs Cottage, it is named in honor of Shi, who retired June 30 after 16 years as president of Furman.

According to The Duke Endowment trust agreement, the grant is intended to support the work of the David E. Shi Center for Sustainability. The Shi Center promotes the study of sustainability both on campus and in the Greenville community. Located in Cliffs Cottage, it is named in honor of Shi, who retired June 30 after 16 years as president of Furman.

In all, more than 90 donors have provided support for the Shi Center. Since 2007, Furman has received $11.3 million toward its sustainability efforts, including donations for the construction of Cliffs Cottage and a $2.5 million U.S. Department of Energy grant to install geothermal systems at the North Village apartments on campus.

Furman is one of four educational institutions to receive presidential funding from The Duke Endowment. The Endowment seeks to fulfill James B. Duke’s legacy by enriching communities in the Carolinas through higher education, health care, rural churches and children’s services.

McArthur was leader in state education circles

WHEN LAURIN CURRIE McARTHUR, JR., died April 4 at the age of 91, he left a legacy of exceptional service to the field of education in South Carolina and at Furman.

The vast majority of his working career was spent as an administrator in the South Carolina public schools, but, as his obituary stated, “He took great pride in organizing school systems, recruiting and developing bright and talented teachers and administrators, and enriching the lives of countless students.”

He served as an assistant superintendent in Orangeburg County from 1950-53, superintendent of Beaufort School District One from 1953-59, and superintendent of Sumter School District Seventeen from 1959-74, when he retired from public school work.

At the time, Cyril Bybee, state superintendent of education, said, “We have 93 school districts in South Carolina. I wish we had 93 school superintendents like Currie McArthur.”

McArthur, a Navy veteran of World War II, served on an assortment of state, regional and national commissions. He chaired the South Carolina Education Association’s Blue Ribbon Committee on reorganization and the State Superintendent of Education Commission of Teacher Certificates in 1968. He was also actively involved in Presbyterian church work.

He was remembered fondly by colleagues in Sumter, where he was superintendent when schools were desegregated. The Sumter newspaper, The Item, reported that the desegregation plan McArthur oversaw was “lauded as a model by the New York Times” and quoted his former secretary, Julia S. Winters, as saying, “He was a strong leader for District Seventeen and introduced new levels of learning.”

In 1974, McArthur came to Furman to develop a school leadership program. Hugh Harris, his colleague in the education department, says, “He brought a tremendous amount of real world experience with him, and he had the foundation for the program on which others were to reproduce.”

During his nine years on the faculty McArthur was well known for his outstanding personality, charity nature and a quiet manner. Nelly Hecker, current department chair, recalls one of her first conversations with McArthur after she arrived at Furman, in which he emphasized how important it was for her, as a new faculty member, to invest herself immediately in the work of the department.

“His face is kind, but it wasn’t paternalistic,” she says. “He was very collegial, and mentoring was his strength.”

Lesley Quast, now an assistant dean at Furman, recalls McArthur’s sincerity and interest in others. “I never saw him in a bad mood,” she says. “He was very warm and courteous, the epitome of a Southern gentleman. He met my parents once while they visited, and after that he would never fail to ask me how they were doing. Those kinds of personal touches were typical of Currie.”

Arcbird, who earned a doctorate from Columbia University, had a reputation as an exceptional conversationalist — but, as Hecker says, “He was also a great listener.” Harris says he was “full of stories and ideas” and recalls one discussion in particular which he began by telling her, “Ann, you will do in your life, you will do a lot of things.”

He had a fatherly way about him, but it wasn’t paternalistic,” she says. “He was very warm and courteous, the epitome of a Southern gentleman. He met my parents once while they visited, and after that he would never fail to ask me how they were doing. Those kinds of personal touches were typical of Currie.”

Arcbird, who earned a doctorate from Columbia University, had a reputation as an exceptional conversationalist — but, as Hecker says, “He was also a great listener.” Harris says he was “full of stories and ideas” and recalls one discussion in particular which he began by telling her, “Ann, you will do in your life, you will do a lot of things.”

“Strive, strength,” Harris says, “Anne called after about an hour. Currie then asked me if I thought he’d talked too long, and I said no, not at all. So he told him, ‘OK right now. Call me in another hour.’”

Harris adds, “Currie’s life was a legacy, and Anne was a significant part of it.”

In addition to his wife, McArthur is survived by sons Laurin Currie McArthur III (Nancy) and John Brown McArthur (Barbara Home McArthur 70), daughter Sally McArthur Shigley 79 (Ken 73), six grandchildren, and a brother.

— JIM STEWART