



# LIBRARIES

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## **Women at Stout : a centennial retrospective. 1991**

[Menomonie, Wisconsin]: University of Wisconsin--Stout, 1991

<https://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/7L47VT52VQHCF8A>

Copyright 1991 University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents, doing business as University of Wisconsin-Stout

For information on re-use, see

<http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/Copyright>

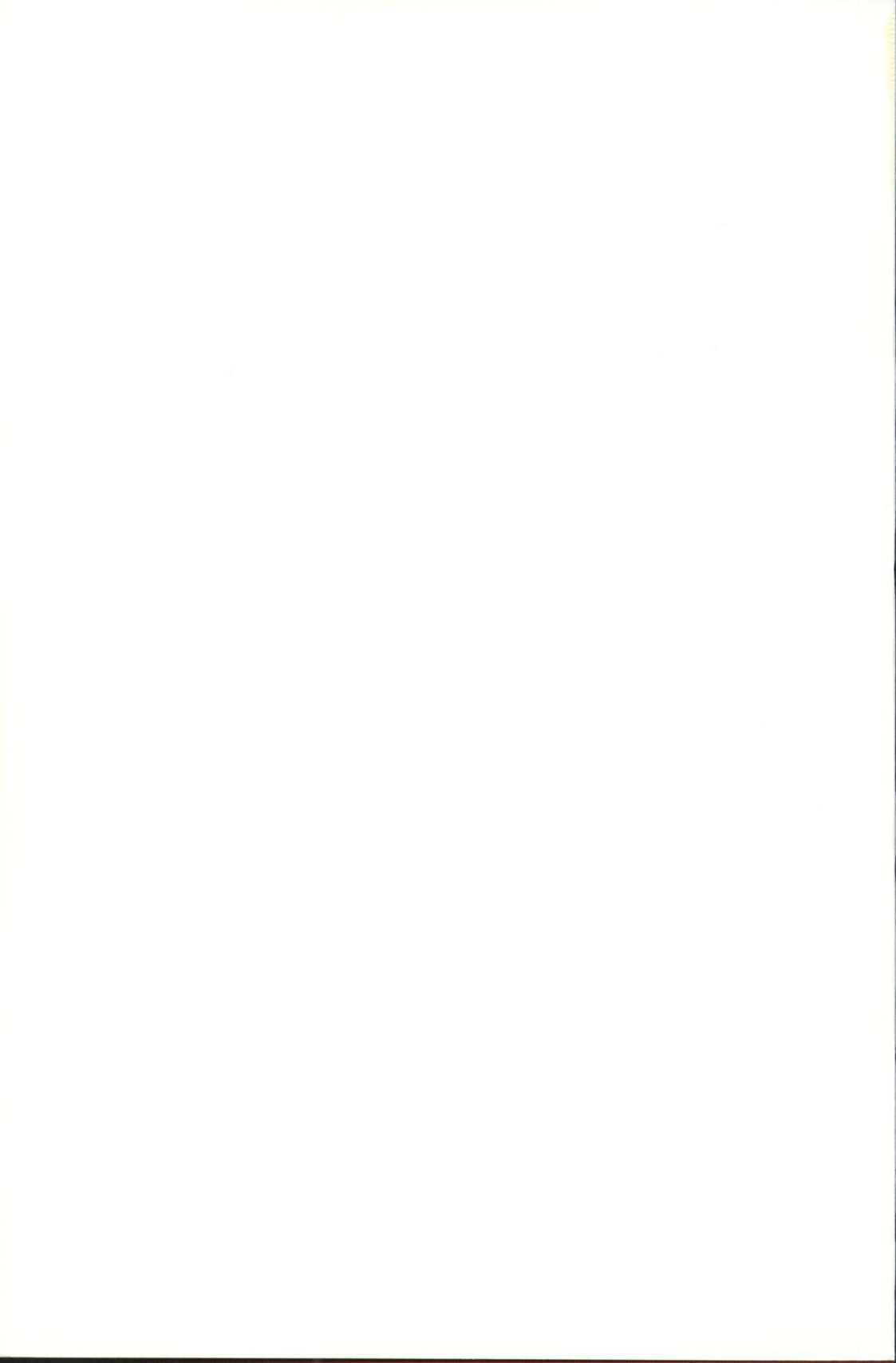
The libraries provide public access to a wide range of material, including online exhibits, digitized collections, archival finding aids, our catalog, online articles, and a growing range of materials in many media.

When possible, we provide rights information in catalog records, finding aids, and other metadata that accompanies collections or items. However, it is always the user's obligation to evaluate copyright and rights issues in light of their own use.

WOMEN AT STOUT



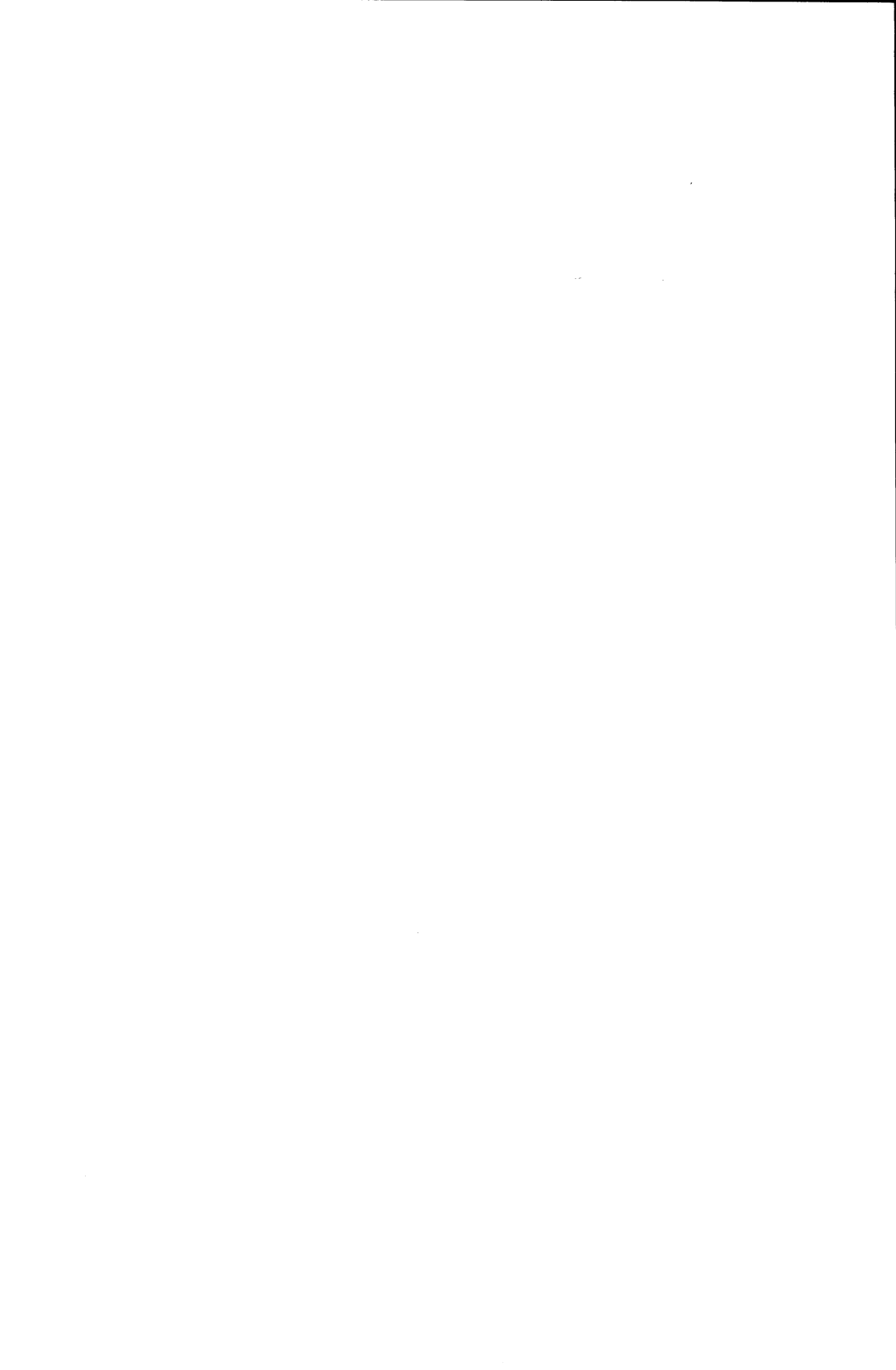
A CENTENNIAL  
RETROSPECTIVE



WOMEN AT STOUT  
A CENTENNIAL RETROSPECTIVE







# WOMEN AT STOUT

## A CENTENNIAL RETROSPECTIVE



*Compiled by*  
**BEATRICE A. BIGONY**  
*Social Science Department, UW-Stout*

*Archival research by*  
*William Munns, Margaret Swanson, Beatrice A. Bigony*

*Prepared under the auspices of*  
*The Women's Studies Committee, UW-Stout*

*Dedicated to the Women of University of Wisconsin-Stout  
Past, Present and Future*

*Copyright © 1991 by  
University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents  
doing business as University of Wisconsin-Stout*

*All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form  
without permission of the University of Wisconsin-Stout.*

*First Printing*

*Printed in the United States of America*

# CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	vi
PREFACE	vii
CHRONOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS	1
BIOGRAPHICAL PORTRAITS	33
Kate Murphy	35
Mary M. McCalmont	36
Olga Brekke	37
Lillian M. Froggatt	38
Gertrude L. Callahan	39
Lillian C. Jeter	40
Ruth E. Michaels	41
Gertrude O'Brien	42
S. Keturah Antrim	43
Minnie Becker	44
Anne C. Marshall	45
Alice J. Kirk	46
Evelyn G. Rimel	47
Nelva G. Runnalls	48
FOOTNOTES	49
BIBLIOGRAPHY	51

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This project was underwritten by a grant from the Stout University Foundation titled "*The History of Women at UW-Stout.*" Sharon Nero, Fran Garb and Beatrice A. Bigony served as directors.

The project directors extend their gratitude to the following: Gayle Martinson, director of the UW-Stout Area Research Center, her assistant, Kevin Thorie, and their student staff, especially Earleen Gumbs and Jeff Hensel, all of whom gave generously of their time and knowledge in a most affable way; Carolyn Barnhart, and staff of the School of Home Economics, for information on that school's recent history; and Gary Cowles, printing manager, Marty Springer, ITS-Photography, and the Office of University Relations, for production assistance.

The directors also thank Pat Reisinger, director of the Stout University Foundation, and the Foundation Board for their enthusiastic support.

This project would not have reached fruition without the invaluable aid of Margaret Swanson and William Munns, each of whom spent untold hours researching materials in the UW-Stout Area Research Center. Deepest appreciation is extended to them. In addition, the compiler wishes to thank UW-Stout faculty and staff for answering dozens of telephone queries.

The compiler also wishes to thank her husband, Burton Barnard, and her two sons, Aubrey and Bowen, for their patience during the summer 1991 period of compilation; they endured much.

The manuscript was critically read by Dwight Agnew; Kevin Thorie; Sharon Nero; Fran Garb; Pat Reisinger; Gerane Dougherty; and Margaret and Robert Swanson.



## PREFACE

The initial scope of this project was small: an eight-page booklet highlighting some of the achievements of women faculty and staff throughout Stout's 100 years. But, as research progressed, it became evident that such a small booklet would not begin to illustrate the breadth and depth of women's roles in Stout's development as an institution of higher learning. Accordingly, the booklet grew to its present length. It is still only a beginning, a way of illustrating women's important achievements at Stout. It is certainly not definitive; much information still needs to be gathered and processed. Undoubtedly, an in-depth manuscript will be written detailing women's significant contributions to Stout.

Once the research materials for a project of this nature have been collected, the challenge becomes one of selecting data which seem to best reflect both the diversity of women's roles and women's impacts on Stout as an emerging institution of higher learning, and then, blending the two into a cohesive picture. Every attempt has been made to so do. It has been a difficult, but pleasant task.

Emphasis has been placed on Stout's first 60 years for two major reasons: since 1950, Stout has grown greatly in complexity, a complexity that cannot be detailed in a few short pages; and the contributions of alumnae, and present women staff and faculty members, have been so numerous, that it is not possible to highlight all of them. Therefore, a decision was made to exclude accomplishments of most distinguished alumnae and women faculty still at Stout. However, the compiler hopes that by perusing the following pages, the reader will begin to appreciate the tremendous and lasting contributions that women made in Stout's development.

Archival materials by their very nature are incomplete. Some records and information are lost or destroyed before they reach an archives. Every attempt has been made to accurately portray the story of women at Stout, but there are gaps in the archival information. There were also some conflicting data which could not be resolved. Any corrections or additional information that readers can send us will be appreciated.

This book was assembled for you, the readers. We hope that you will find it enjoyable reading.

*Section One*  
CHRONOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS



The directors of the schools, from Mr. Stout to the youngest professors, would be glad to see any boy or girl given the best the school offers. The conditions that curtailed the girls' opportunities are fast changing. Menomonie people in educational insight have advanced beyond the world outside.

*Adele Marie Shaw in  
"The Ideal Schools of Menomonie"  
The World's Work, March 1904*

### 1891

The Stout Manual Training School, based on James Huff Stout's philosophy of learning through involvement, opened as part of the Menomonie Public School System. Funded by Mr. Stout, this was the *first* school in Wisconsin devoted exclusively to the areas of both manual training and domestic science.

The *first* three faculty members were recruited from the manual training school in Toledo, Ohio: **Lillian Goldsmith**, cooking and drawing; **Mabel Wilson**, sewing and dressmaking; and C.P. Friedman, woodworking and mechanical drawing.

These faculty members were serious professionals, witnessed by Goldsmith's offering of cooking instruction on Saturdays, "open to all ladies of the city." The Saturday classes were held both morning and afternoon and were limited to 20 women: 12 lessons for 50 cents each.<sup>1</sup>

In November, **Mrs. Arndt** was hired to clean the cooking and sewing departments, *first* known woman custodian at the school.

### 1892

In January, The Stout Manual Training School celebrated its first anniversary. **Gertrude Coburn**, cooking department, gave a talk on "Domestic

Economy." Recitations were given by three of her students: "A Kitchen Apron," by **Florence Fox**; "Education in Making a Cake," by **Alice Snively**; and "Economy in the Kitchen," by **Stella Macauley**.

### 1893

A new three-story Manual Training School building, funded by James Huff Stout, was completed.

At the June commencement, thirteen students, including five women, received diplomas from the Stout Manual Training School.

### 1894

The Stout Manual Training School enlarged its educational scope, offering courses in four departments: mechanic arts, domestic arts, art, and science.

**Kate Murphy**, a graduate of the St. Louis School of Fine Arts, was hired to head up the newly formed art department. (See *Biographical Portraits*)

At Mr. Stout's urging, Menomonie introduced kindergarten classes into its public school curriculum. In 1890, a Professor Sterns from the state university delivered an address on "Froebel, the Founder of the Kindergarten" at the Mabel Tainter Memorial in Menomonie.<sup>2</sup>



**1895**

**Gertrude Coburn** left her position as head of domestic science to become professor of domestic economy in the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Iowa. She was replaced first by **Elma B. Perry** in 1903-04, and then by **Laura G. Day**, a graduate of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Iowa. Day was Director of the Training School for Domestic Science Teachers until 1910. Records for 1908 indicate that Day was given a salary of \$1,400 while her counterpart, **George B. Buxton**, director of the Manual Training School, received \$2,000.

**1897**

In February, the Stout Manual Training School building burned down. Menomonic citizens petitioned Sen. Stout to rebuild it. Among those signing the petition were professional women: **Dr. Kate Kelsey**, physician and surgeon, who also served on the Menomonic Board of Education;

**Mrs. A. Fletcher** and **Hannah E. Heller**, milliners; and **Margaret S. Messenger**, Board of Trustees, The Unitarian Society of Menomonic. Wives of prominent businessmen also signed: **Mrs. George W. LaPointe**, **Mrs. A. (Bertha) Tainter**, and **Mrs. Thomas B. Wilson**.

**1898**

Community women raised funds to grade the grounds of the new school buildings.

**1899**

The Kindergarten Training School to prepare kindergarten teachers was established. **Martha Logsdon Coull** came in 1898 as supervisor of the kindergartens, then was given the supervision of the primary schools. By 1901, she was serving as the principal of the school. She was responsible for directing the two-year certification program.



Kate Murphy travelled the world to find items for display in the Stout Museum.



Kindergarten children during the luncheon period on the Central School grounds.

### **1900**

Twelve women enrolled in the kindergarten training school. Enrollment was relatively stable over the next few years: 1901 (8 students), 1902 (6 students), 1903 (11 students), and 1904 (15 students). All of these students were women.

### **1901**

The School of Physical Culture was added to the Stout schools. N.J. MacArthur was director. In 1904, Carolyn Bornheim became his assistant, the first woman physical education teacher at Stout. She was succeeded by Agatha Carstens in 1906. While there is evidence of early womens' sports,<sup>3</sup> it is interesting that there are no records of such teams from 1910 into the early 1920s.

### **1903**

Training schools for both manual training teachers and domestic science teachers were added to

the curriculum.

Lorenzo Dow Harvey was brought to Menomonie by Sen. Stout to serve as the director of the Stout Manual Training Schools. He also assumed the superintendency of the Menomonie Public Schools.

### **1904**

In her position as director of manual training in Manitowoc, a Stout graduate was asked to teach woodworking in addition to her domestic science classes. With input from the Stout faculty, she was able to comply with this request.

### **1907**

"The demand for the graduates of the school for kindergarten and primary positions is, every year, in excess of the number of graduates. Graduates of the Stout Training Schools are now teaching in twenty different states."<sup>4</sup>

### 1907-1908

Fourteen women faculty served on the Kindergarten Training School and the Homemakers School staffs, offering a wide variety of coursework.

The Kindergarten Training School: **Alma L. Bunzel**, director; **Mary D. Bradford**, supervisor of primary work; **Cora Barron** and **Mary Ehrhard**, critic teachers; and **S.L. Metcalf**, music.

The Homemakers School: **Marion S. Arnold**, director; **Laura G. Day**, dietetics; **Nellie W. Farnsworth**, physiology and hygiene; **Anna K. Flint**, dress making; **Lurene Seymour**, textiles and millinery; and **Zella Perkins**, chemistry.

Serving both programs were **Kate Murphy**, director of art, and her assistant, **Pearl Cook**; **Leila Bascom**, English and literature; **A.H. Plag**, director of the School of Physical Culture, and his assistant, **Julia Bigelow**.

Barron, Ehrhard and Farnsworth were graduates of Stout Manual Training School programs.

### 1908

The Stout Manual Training Schools were reorganized into the Stout Institute, with a two-year certification program for all of the graduates. **Lorenzo Dow Harvey** was named president of Stout Institute.

May commencement: 22 graduates (*including one man*) from the Domestic Science Training School; 18 graduates (*all women*) from the Kindergarten Training School; and 17 graduates (*all men*) from the Manual Training School.

**Grace Darling** began serving as Stout Institute's first librarian, a position she held until 1910. Concurrently, she also taught English and domestic science.

**Francesca L. Otto** was secretary and appointment clerk for Stout Institute (*the first?*). She became the first registrar in 1910.

### 1908-1909

The Girls' Hiking Club was organized by senior women, but only lasted for one academic year. In 1914, it was re-established. (*See 1914 entry*)

### The Homemakers School

The Homemakers School was established in 1907 as a "new experiment in the educational field" for women seeking either professional careers in domestic science or home-making careers. Coursework was designed to focus on "the duties the homemaker owes to herself as a woman, her relations ethical, economic, and social to the other members of the family, to society, and to the state."<sup>4</sup> Classes were held in the "Yellow Lodge" or "Yellow House" which also housed administrative offices and the library.<sup>5</sup>

The 1936 *Tower* states that "In 1904, there were only two practice houses in use in the United States, one at The Stout Institute and the other at Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama."<sup>6</sup>

**Josephine W. Hobbs** served as Director of the Homemakers School from 1909-1916. (*See 1915 entry*)

The Girls' German Club was started. (*The men had their own German Club known as "The Stout German Club."*)

### 1909

The first student annual, later known as the *Tower*, was started. It continued publication until 1989. The 1909 *Annual's* editorial staff consisted of 10 members, five of whom were women: **Lucile W. Reynolds**, editor of organizations; **Frances M. Oliver**, literary editor; **Frances C. Beck**, humorous editor; and **Marie A. Huntsman** and **Emily M. Thomas**, staff artists.

**Daisy A. Kugel** came to Stout Institute, serving as head of the household arts department from 1911-1927.

**Nellie Farnsworth** was the preceptress (*house-mother*) of Bertha Tainter Hall, a position she held in conjunction with her teaching responsibilities.

In October, a Girls' Glee Club was organized

There are many lines of work needed to be done in the world which men and women may do equally well. Equal opportunities should be given for the education of each in the direction of efficient performance of these lines of work.<sup>7</sup>

*Lorenzo Dow Harvey*  
President, Stout Institute

with **Genevieve Hotchkiss**, a junior in domestic science, serving as director. The 1910 *Annual* Glee Club photo shows 23 women. The next year this club became known as the Ladies' Glee Club.

Although very successful, the Kindergarten Training School was dropped from the Stout Institute curriculum, apparently due to two factors: competition from kindergarten training schools in both Superior and Milwaukee, and President Harvey's primary focus on the manual training and domestic science programs which were showing increased demands. (*Kindergarten training re-appeared at UIW-Stout in the early 1970s as part of the Early Childhood Education Program.*) **Mary Bradford**, a teacher in the kindergarten program, left Stout Institute, later chronicling her memories in her autobiography. (*See Bibliography*)

## 1910

The 1910 *Annual* listed **Adalin M. Wright** as the secretary for Stout Institute.

Stout Institute custodian, **Mrs. Nesser**, is pictured in the 1910 *Annual* with an ode to her, the first stanza of which reads:

*Along our halls she oft is seen,  
A-welding [sic] brush and broom,  
Like Old Dutch Cleanser, chasing dirt  
From out each hall and room.*

In March, the YWCA was organized at Stout Institute with a charter membership of 110. Officers were **Etta Cramton**, president; **Henrietta Pyre**, vice-president; **Lillian Otto**, secretary; and

**Leighla Furness**, treasurer. The organization had seven committees, each with a chair and continued at Stout until 1959.

**Mabel Leedom** came to Stout Institute to teach chemistry for the domestic arts students and remained as a chemistry instructor until her retirement in 1941.

**Katherine H. Hahn** began her tenure as the first full-time Librarian. The 1915 *Annual* was dedicated to her in appreciation of her service.

**Ebba H. Neseth** was hired as clerk for Stout Institute; **Emma Olson** was hired as bookkeeper (*the first?*).

The Stout Dancing Club was organized by the men in manual training to create more social life for the women in domestic science.

Sen. Stout died in December. Ownership of Stout Institute transferred to the state in 1911.

## 1911

**Donna Dines** of Milwaukee was appointed by the governor to serve on the Board of Directors for Stout Institute, the first woman to be so chosen. Hines was from the millinery merchandising field, employed as a manager and buyer for the T.A. Chapman Company of Milwaukee, doing both foreign and domestic buying.

**Fern Winter Stern**, Diploma '11, in later years remembered "those nice dances on the top floor of the tower building" and "living in Tainter Annex when room and board for the semester was only \$180."<sup>8</sup>

**Grace M. Dow** became preceptress of Bertha Tainter Hall, a position she held until her retirement in 1940. She taught institution management and, in 1924, she became the *first* director of Halls and Housing at Stout.

**Clara Louise Boughton** began teaching home economics education, continuing in this capacity until she retired in 1933.

**Caroline Helmer** was hired as President Harvey's secretary;

**Mabel L. Kalmback** was hired as registrar and appointment secretary.

### 1911-1912

The first Stout Orchestra was organized. (*Prior to this year, there had been an orchestra composed of both Menomonie High School students and Stout Institute students.*) Of the 20 students pictured in the 1911 *Annual*, four are women: two first violin players, the viola player and the pianist.

The 1911 *Annual* also pictured "The Students' Band" for the first time, but no women appear in the picture.

### 1912

Women students were required to wear striped uniforms which were called "convict suits" by the male students.

**Daisy Kugel**, head of household arts, lectured on how much hair to have and how to wear it.

The Philomathean Literary Society was organized. Women members gathered together for debates, discussions, musical performances, and friendship. (*See 1952 entry*)

**Mary McCalmont** came to Stout Institute to teach chemistry. (*See Biographical Portraits*)

**Emma Olson** became Stout's *first* cashier; **Genevieve I. Field** became the assistant librarian; and **Sarah Isabel Stahl** became the registrar and appointment secretary.

### 1912-1913

The first Stout Social Club was formed, to bring students together for entertainment. Six such

events were held during this school year. The Club Committee consisted of nine members, four of whom were women.

### 1913

The *first* Girls' Hikers Club was pictured in the 1913 *Annual* (15 women). It was reorganized the following year, the first hike being taken by 32 hikers to Irvington. They called themselves "The Girl Hikers" (*The Boys Hikers Club started in 1912*). Their adviser was **Alma Kreuger**, instructor in physical training.

A tennis club was organized, evidently the first club composed of both men and women; **Ruth Layman** was secretary-treasurer.

### 1914

**Zilpha Bensed** became the assistant clerk of Stout Institute.

### 1914-1915

**Agnes McCarthy** served as both class president and chair of the Senior Prom Committee.

**Bernice Barker** became the *first* woman to serve on the Stout Athletic Board.

A Stout Dance Committee, comprised of four faculty (*two women*) and two students (*one woman*), was formed to set up and supervise student dances.

Stout's first student newspaper, later known as *The Stoutonia*, was started. Three of the seven staff members were women: **Mildred Smith** and **Esther Denninger** served as associate editors; **Dorothy Rendall** served as assistant business manager.

The Homemakers Cottage was started as a place where students could try out the theories they learned in class. At this time, it was one of fewer than six such "houses" in the country. Its successor was the Home Management House. (*See sidebar, page 15*)





Chemistry lab, circa 1916.

## 1916

**Helen Keller** came to Stout, giving her famous address on "Happiness" to the Stout Institute student body.

The 1916 *Annual* was dedicated to **Ruth Phillips**, English teacher and faculty adviser to student groups, including the Philomathean Society and the Stout theater group. Phillips taught in both the Menomonie High School and Stout Institute prior to her full-time appointment at Stout in the fall of 1910. She remained at Stout until 1927.

In the late "teens" and early '20s, some students lived in boarding houses. In the 1916 *Annual*, four such residences—the Giese's, Hamm's Place, The Nutshell and the Hill's Residence—show both men and women student boarders. In the 1920 *Annual*, there are three such houses boarding both sexes—known as the Giese Bunch, the Sneen Bunch, and the Tash Bunch.

## 1917

In April, the new Home Economics Building, which became known as the Household Arts Building (*now Harvey Hall*), was dedicated (*even though it had been finished the preceding spring*). **Wilhelmina Spohr**, Diploma '07, textiles and clothing professor, was one of the speakers at the dedication.<sup>9</sup>

The Women's Glee Club was reorganized after being defunct for a few years. By 1921 it had become "a very active and successful organization."<sup>10</sup> In September 1923, it was renamed "Sharps and Flats" but was changed again to "Girls' Glee Club" in 1925.

Lynwood Hall residence rules limited women students to one dance an evening at Rusk and "lights out" by 9 P.M. on Fridays and Saturdays.

The Stout Suffrage Committee was formed as part of the larger Dunn County suffrage movement. Active in the Stout movement were **Katherine Hahn**, librarian, a **Miss Field**, and **Gladys**

**Harvey**, interior decoration instructor, who was also president of the Dunn County Suffrage Party. Harvey was also President Harvey's daughter.

The Stout Auxiliary of the Dunn County Chapter of the American Red Cross was organized by faculty member **Louise Williams**, instructor of microbiology, hygiene, and home nursing, assisted by **Margaret Baker** and **L.M. O'Neale**.

Stout student, **Cecile Raymond**, enlisted in the National Army.

Under President Harvey's diligent efforts, Stout Institute became a four-year college, granting bachelor of science degrees in household arts and industrial arts. For the first time, coursework included a wide range of liberal arts subjects, including the disciplines of English, history, sociology, economics, government, speech, psychology, mathematics, chemistry, and biology.<sup>11</sup>

### 1918

Stout Institute granted its first bachelor of science degrees to one woman, **Beth Bailey** (*household arts*), and two men. (See 1954 entry)

### 1920

Stout's first infirmary was set up. It could accommodate 12 patients and was supervised by nurse

**Harriet P. Vincent**, who evidently was Stout's first nurse, and also taught home nursing. The school nurse in 1924-25 was **A. Josephine Frandsen**.

### 1921

**Anna Mueller**, **Margaret McQuillan**, and **June Schneider**, recipients of national vocational scholarships funded under the Smith-Hughes Act of 1917, enrolled in Stout Institute.

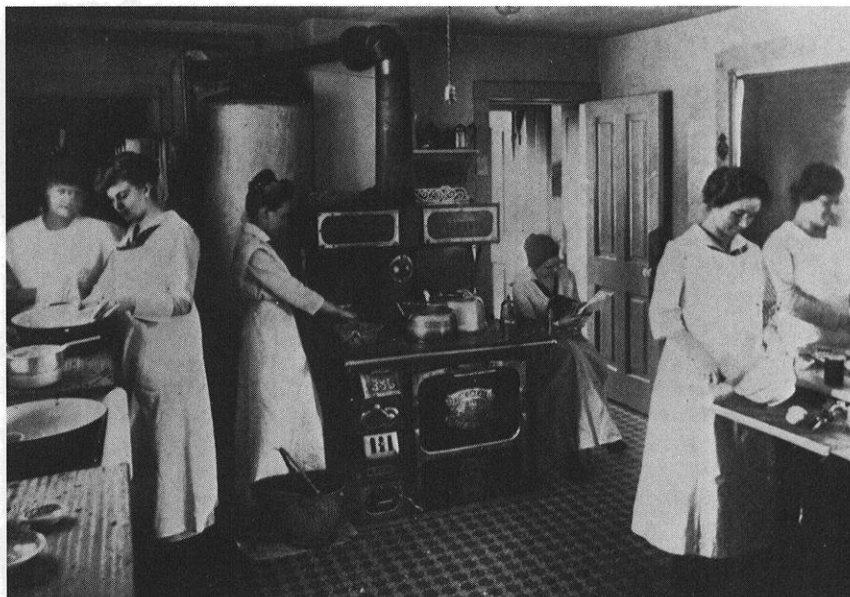
A dramatics club was formed (*the earlier one having become defunct?*) known as "The Manual Arts Players." Their adviser was **Ruth Klein**, a new faculty member who taught English, public speaking, and who was first named director of dramatics. The 1921 *Annual* shows 29 women and seven men with their adviser. In the early 1960s, this club was still in existence, known as Stout's chapter of Alpha Psi Omega. (*Its charter with Alpha Psi Omega dates back to 1935.*)

Two women (*one a violinist; the other, a pianist*) were pictured as members of the Stout Orchestra (*a photograph in the Annual shows 11 members*).

**Mary J. Eichelberger** of Horicon, Wis., willed \$20,000 in preferred stocks and cash to Stout Institute. These funds came without any stipulation as to use. These funds were made available for student loans, fellowships, and to purchase the Louis Smith Tainter House. The Louis Smith Tainter



The 1917 *Annual* pictured the Camp Fire Girls Organization, the only time it is found in the yearbook.



Kitchen scene of the Homemaker's Cottage from the 1917 Annual.

House served as a women's dormitory from 1945-1966 and was known as Eichelberger Hall.

### 1922

President Harvey died. Clyde A. Bowman served as the interim president of Stout Institute.

**Olga Brekke** was hired as a cook and baker in the Stout Institute Cafeteria. (See *Biographical Portraits*)

In the 1922 Annual, Lynwood Hall (a women's dormitory) activities included a reference to an evening when the preceptress caught three of her residents scaling the rear fence, with two others waiting for them: "I gasped in horror, but what could I do?"

### 1923

Burton E. Nelson became the second president of Stout Institute.

The Girls' Hikers Club became the Girls' Ath-

letic Association. It promoted hiking, swimming, canoeing, baseball, basketball and tennis, and presented a letter "S" to every member who hiked 100 miles during the school year. Then, in 1927, the Girls' Athletic Association became officially known as the Women's Athletic Association.

### 1924

The Inky Fingers Club was organized to promote student literary talent. In 1928, this club had all women officers: **Corene Baysinger**, ruling pen; **Lena Bertadotto**, rubber stamp; **Gertrude Burt**, fountain pen and paper knife; and **Luella Anderson**, index. In 1931, the club changed its name to Pegasus (for poetic inspiration). In 1936, **Merceda Braun** served as president.

The D.A.K. Club was formed, comprised of junior and senior women in the School of Household Arts. Named in honor of **Daisy A. Kugel**, director of the School of Household Arts, this club became affiliated with both the Wisconsin Home

Economics and the National Home Economics associations in 1926. In 1928, it was renamed the Stout Home Economics Club. By 1933, within this club, there was an honorary grouping (*known as The Home Economics Senate*) of upperclass women selected on the basis of high scholastic standing, professional attitude and cooperation. (See 1933 entry)

**Freda M. Bachmann**, the first woman hired at Stout who had a doctorate, came to Stout Institute to teach biology. She retired in 1939. She served as the adviser to the Science Club. (See 1928 entry)

**Lillian Froggatt** came to Stout Institute to serve as head librarian. (See *Biographical Portraits*)

### 1924-1925

The Stout Boys Band had two women members: **Lucille Dean** and **Elvera Kretch**.

### 1925

The 1925 *Tower* listed a number of Stout's outstanding alumni. Among those cited were: **Erna Bertrams**, home economics expert and consultant for Swift and Company, Chicago; **Hattie B. Cordsette**, chief dietitian, U.S. Veterans Bureau, Washington, D.C.; **Harriet Glendon**, department head of foods and nutrition, Margaret Morrison School, Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh; **Margaret Johnston**, state supervisor of vocational home economics, Madison, Wis.; **Eda L. Murphy**, department head of home economics, Women's College, Constantinople, Turkey; **Dorothy Milarvitz**, chief dietitian, City Hospital, Cleveland; **Wilhelmina Spohr**, associate professor of education, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York; and **Frances Zuill**, department head of home economics, Iowa State University, Iowa City.

### The Stout Institute Cafeteria



In the fall of 1921, the Stout Institute Cafeteria opened its doors. It was located in the east end of the basement of the Household Arts Building. **Della Payne**, Diploma '16, was the *first* director. This cafeteria was "for the use of the students and faculty at the Institute, and their guests. At present, several hundred may be accommodated for three daily meals. The equipment is complete and modern: prices are moderate; the service is adequate; the food and cookery are excellent. The cafeteria will prove a convenience and an economy to many students. Students are securing meals for the week at from \$4.50 to \$6.00."<sup>12</sup>



The Girl's Athletic Association as pictured in the 1924 *Annual*.

### 1925-26

Lillian Hylland and Jane Hamsley, members of the Glee Club, wrote the "Alma Mater to the Stout Institute," a popular Stout song for many years.

### 1927

Semi-monthly teas were held in the School of Household Arts Tea Room. This tradition of afternoon teas was continued for many years.

Four women who gave many years of their lives to Stout Institute came to the institution: Gertrude Callahan, English instructor, who retired in 1961; Lillian Carson, related arts instructor, who retired in 1946; Margaret W. Cruise, food and nutrition instructor, who retired in 1947; and Lillian Jeter, clothing and related arts Instructor, who retired in 1961. (See *Biographical Portraits for more information about Callahan and Jeter.*)

Ruth E. Michaels became director of home economics. (See *Biographical Portraits*)

### 1928

Stout Institute received accreditation by the North Central Association and the American Council on Education.

Gertrude O'Brien was hired as registrar and appointments secretary. (See *Biographical Portraits*)

The Science Club began with Dr. Freda Bachmann as the adviser. The club was open to both men and women but limited to faculty, seniors and second semester juniors unless otherwise recommended. Most of the members were women. This club continued in existence until 1939.

The Stout Student Association was organized. (In 1914, a Student Council was formed of men from the manual training department, but it lasted only two years.)



### The Daisy Kugel Incident

In 1927, several faculty members from the School of Household Arts (of which Kugel was Director) were chaperones of student buses to the annual basketball game in River Falls.

Too few buses showed up which meant that men and women students had to ride on the same buses which was not customary practice.

Apparently, on the bus trip, there was some smoking of cigarettes and usage of impolite language. Then, the students were not allowed to stay for the after-the-game dance because they had not made prior arrangements for permission to do so. Kugel's staff was upset with the students' behaviors.

*The Stoutonia* recorded this incident in a man-



ner not to their or Kugel's liking. On behalf of her staff, Kugel requested an apology. *The Stoutonia* staff replied, but not with the apology which Kugel felt should be forthcoming.

Kugel then asked President Nelson to intervene in the situation. He chose not to do so. (He was called back from his honeymoon to adjudicate the situation.)

In response, Kugel resigned her position, and left Stout Institute. She assumed a teaching and administrative position at Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia. Half her teaching staff (four other women) left with her. For years afterwards, people talked about "The Daisy Kugel Incident."<sup>13</sup>



### The Child

Beginning in the fall of 1927, the dean of the School of Home Economics personally signed for "the child," a baby, two to eight months old, who was obtained from the Wisconsin State Welfare Department every fall. The baby was kept in the house and cared for by the students, who were supervised by the director of the Home Management House. The director lived in the house year round. Presumably, after each school year, the baby was put up for adoption. This practice of keeping babies in the Home Management House is documented through the spring of 1946. The first baby was "Henrietta;" the last recorded baby was "Roger."<sup>14</sup>

The wide selection of liberal arts courses with the core subjects of English and science, give the home economics students an opportunity for a larger part of the general education found in all colleges...It can be truly said of home economics trained college students at The Stout Institute today that they no longer go out into any of the professional fields, knowing only the technical arts of "cooking and sewing," but that they are prepared also to recognize the problems of social living and should be able to make a generous contribution to life in any community."<sup>15</sup>

Ruth E. Michaels,  
Director of Home Economics

### 1929

**Hazel Van Ness** came to Stout Institute as a clothing and textiles instructor, continuing her teaching until she retired in 1968. She was very popular with students and conducted fashion tours to Europe. (See 1968 entry)

### 1930

**Henriette Quilling** became the *first* woman editor of *The Stoutonia*. She also served as editor-in-chief of the *Tower*, a position under the direction of the managing editor of *The Stoutonia*. Later, she was an instructor at Stout for a few years. In 1966, she received the Distinguished Alumni Award.

### 1931

**Mabel Neergaard**, a senior, was a prize winner in a home furnishing contest sponsored by Montgomery Ward and Company.

Students unable to maintain academic standards had to withdraw from Stout Institute. This included 11 women and 13 men.

A Women's Natural Dancing Class, a women's Archery Club, and a women's gymnastics team, called the Stout Tumblers, were organized.

Women who had passed the Red Cross life saving examinations made up an honorary group known as The Stout Life Saving Corps.

**Alice S. Houston** became director of the nursery school, which started in 1929 with **Helen C. Smith** as its *first* director. Houston held this position until her retirement in 1941.

### 1932-1933

The literary magazine *Young Wings* was started. It was named by **Violet Bussy**. The first issue contained 48 pages of prose and poetry. One of the early and best writers was **Carmen Spreiter**, whose poetry was "widely applauded." In 1935, **Louise Owen** became the first woman editor of *Young Wings*.

### 1933

The 26th chapter of Phi Upsilon Omicron was established in the School of Home Economics, to

further the study of the science of Home Economics. **Virginia Ray**, wife of Stout industrial arts professor Dr. J. E. Ray, was a charter member. As of summer 1991, Virginia Ray was still living in Menomonie.

### 1934

**Doris Bradley** became the *first* woman editor of the *Tower*. She was also the Prom Queen that Fall.

The Pallas Athene Society was formed, a women's organization promoting scholarship and athletics.

### 1935

Governor La Follette authorized Stout Institute to offer graduate work and grant the master of science degree in industrial education and home economics education. (*Stout is the second oldest graduate institution, after Madison, in the UW-System.*) The first masters of science degrees were awarded in August 1938.

**Katherine Watson** and **Rosamond Carlson**, students in home economics education, surveyed

100 Menomonie homes to determine magazine reading habits. The most widely read magazines were found to be *Ladies Home Journal*, *The American*, and *McCalls*.

**Myrtle Ross**, a prima donna who owned her own theatrical company, performed at Stout.

**Betty Keith**, daughter of metals professor Floyd Keith, was the *first* woman to be elected master cheerleader.

### 1936

**S. Keturah Antrim** came to Stout as a physical education instructor. (*See Biographical Portraits*)

**Mary Ellen Klatt**, a junior, adapted the song "Stout-Hearted Men" for Stout, and, in 1937, an effort was made to designate this song as the official Stout song.

The Stout Rifle Club pictured in the 1936 *Tower* shows 23 participants, seven of whom were women.

**Jill Edwards**, a famous radio personality, gave a talk at Stout.

## The Home Management House

By 1933, The Home Management House on 6th Street (*the successor to the Homemakers Cottage*) was well established. The 1933 *Tower* states: "The Home Management House provides a practical test of all the knowledge and abilities the girls have acquired during their training at Stout. It is organized upon a basis of six week periods with a new group of girls, ranging from six to nine in number, assuming, during each period, not only the duties of the house, but also the practical experience in hospitality. The girls have the entire charge of the housekeeping, the food preparation, and marketing, the care of the child, and the management of the house."<sup>16</sup> (*The director of the house in 1933 was Mildred Lawton.*)

A "tour of duty" in the Home Management House was required by all students in home economics, regardless of their majors. It was phased out in 1969 because of the large numbers of students requiring home management. Courses were then taught in Amon House, the 5th Street Home Management House, which housed the first restaurant at Stout. Amon House was named after faculty member Martha Ruth Amon, who was very interested in art relating to the home. Amon served as Head of the Related Art Department from 1949 until her death in 1962. Amon House was torn down to make way for the new Home Economics Building.

## 1938

**Minnie Becker** was hired as a classified employee. She was a stenographer when President Nelson appointed her as his secretary. (See *Biographical Portraits*)

President Nelson became the first Stout president to appoint advisory faculty committees to share the responsibilities of governance.

## 1939

The first of a number of groups of Catholic nuns attended Stout Institute. (See *sidebar*)

Adrian Pollack, '39, years later recalled the following norms and rules were in effect when he was at Stout: no drinking or smoking in front of or in sight of any professor or administrator, especially the deans of men and women; no radios or appliances in student rooms; no student could go out of town without the dean's permission; no student could be married; and women had to wear hose at all times and were forbidden to wear shorts. The Stout Library closed at 8:30 P.M.; the women had to be in their dorms by 9 P.M. and the men by 9:30 P.M.<sup>17</sup>

**Anne Marshall, Ph.D.**, came to Stout Institute to teach biology. Her physiology classes became famous because of their required cat dissection project. (See *Biographical Portraits*)

**Elissa Landi**, famous as an actress, authoress, and playwright, performed at Stout. In her day, she appeared with such leading men as Lionel Barrymore, Ronald Colman, Douglas Fairbanks and Frederic March.

## 1940

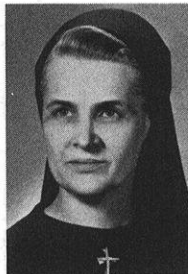
**Ann Hadden**, known as "Happy Hadden," came to Stout Institute. She taught foods and institutional management, and was also in charge of the cafeteria. She stayed until 1947.

**Vivian Bow** was the first woman to major in industrial arts, focusing on printing.

**Euella Emberson** was one of ten Stout students to qualify for civilian pilot training.

## A Distinguished Career

Following graduation from Stout Institute in 1945, **Sister Generose Gervais (OSF)** became a dietetic intern with St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester, Minn. After acquiring a master's degree in hospital administration, she became the administrator for St. Mary's Hospital in 1971.



Gervais served as the first woman director of both The Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis and the Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce.

In 1981, Gervais was named to the newly created position of executive director of St. Mary's. She retired in 1985.

She received the Distinguished Alumni Award from UW-Stout in 1978.<sup>18</sup>

## 1942

**Beulah Howison** came to Stout as an assistant in the library, and worked under three library directors before she retired in 1975.

## 1943

By this time, WWII was having an impact on Stout's enrollment. Enrollment was the lowest since 1918: of 246 students, only 42 were men.

The Pallas Athene organization promoted collection of materials suitable for surgical dressings to aid the war effort.

Homecoming was celebrated without a football game. (By 1943 intercollegiate athletics had stopped due to the paucity of male students.) However, alumni returned to join in a Saturday afternoon picnic at Riverside Park and attend the annual homecoming dance.

**1943-1944**

**Benita G. Smith** came to Stout to teach child development and direct the Nursery School. At this time, all majors in home economics had to take child development which included documenting the activities of a child and, then, assessing her or his development. Smith retired from Stout at the end of fall semester, 1966.

The *first* all-female band and the all-female vocal ensemble were pictured in the *1944 Tower*. The shortage of men was especially hard on the Stout Symphonic Singers, but having women sing the tenor parts became a partial solution.

**1944-1945**

For the *first* time, all the elected officers of the Stout Student Association were women: **Joan Quilling** (*acting president in 1943*), president; **Carol A. Milnes**, vice-president; **Mary Engebretson**, secretary; and **Dorothy Norenberg**, Treasurer.

**1945**

Verne C. Fryklund, Diploma '16, became the third president of Stout Institute.

In 1946, due to G.I. Bill funding, enrollment at Stout jumped to 806—464 more than the previous year. President Fryklund immediately had to find faculty, classrooms, laboratories and equipment, and housing for all these new students. Many of these GI's had wives and were housed in the new "temporary" Fair Oaks Housing.

**Carol A. Milnes**, '45, became a United Airlines stewardess. (*Stout's first?*)

The *first* identified Asian-American woman to attend Stout was **Harriet Okuyama** from Hawaii.<sup>19</sup>

**S. Keturah Antrim** became the *first* Dean of Women.

**1946**

The Stout Orchestra consisted of only nine members, all women.



Luncheon in the Tearoom, circa 1939.

*T*here are millions of men and women, matured from their war experience, who have desires for education.... There will be many types of students needing various types of courses.... Education, therefore, must serve a cross section of the country.<sup>20</sup>

*Verne C. Fryklund*

*President, Stout Institute*

### 1947

In February, a student center opened on the second floor of the gymnasium/natorium. **Mabel C. Rogers**, food and nutrition professor, served as chair of the faculty committee (*four faculty: two women and two men*) which was responsible for purchasing equipment, selecting color schemes, and hiring employees. Dean Antrim was the other woman serving on this committee.

**Alice J. Kirk** began her tenure as dean of home economics, a position she held until her retirement in 1963. (*See Biographical Portraits*)

**Esther Hanson**, a member of the Danish resistance during WWII, enrolled at Stout.

### 1949

In March, the new food preparation laboratory, said to be one of the finest in the nation, was completed. It was designed by Dean Kirk. According to Dean Kirk, "... if we hope to attract students to participate in this important teaching, home economics departments must be modern and efficiently planned. It is essential that they contain the latest in postwar equipment."<sup>21</sup>

In April, the School of Home Economics held an open house for 300 high school girls from within 125 miles, allowing them to see the laboratories and classrooms, observe home economics demonstrations, and participate in a style show. This became an annual spring event during Dean Kirk's tenure at Stout, attracting almost 1,200 high school women in 1955.

### 1950

Stout Student Association membership cards were first issued to student wives, allowing them discounts to all SSA activities.

**Ella Jane Meiller**, chair of the food and nutrition department, was selected to serve on the Diabetic Diet Calculations Committee, American Diabetic Association.

**Mary Killian**, director of the Stout Institute Tearoom, provided foods from different countries once every week for faculty, staff and students to sample.

German students, **Christa Erwin** and **Mary Wuest**, attended Stout Institute on a post-war teacher trainee exchange program. Their scholarships were funded by Stout and the Menomonie Rotary Club.

**Irene Erdlitz** came to Stout to teach physical education for women. She remained at Stout until her unexpected death in July 1965. The Erdlitz Award, established in 1966 to perpetuate her memory, recognized outstanding women athletes.

**Agnes Winston**, a stenographer at Stout for 23 years, retired. She began working in President Fryklund's office in 1945.

**Carolyn Schauf**, a freshman, raised a steer called "Tuition" and sold him to pay for her first year's tuition at Stout.

## 1951

**Ruby Larson** became the *first* woman student to take the drivers education instructor course.

The Milwaukee Journal reports that "In the last two decades the 1,000 young women who have graduated [from Stout] have held positions in every state in the United States and several foreign countries. Many graduates, too, have become successful homemakers." <sup>22</sup>

## 1952

**Mary Detlor**, '54, was named Wisconsin's outstanding 4-H Achievement Girl. She was selected from 45,000 4-H members. Detlor was one of four Wisconsin 4-H women selected to attend the national 4-H Camp in Washington, D.C. She was also named "cover girl" and home economics student of the month of the national magazine *What's New in Home Economics*. In Spring 1954, she won a six-month appointment as a 4-H grassroots ambassador to Denmark.

The *first* sorority at Stout (*the original Philo-*

*mathean Society, organized in 1912*) became the first sorority to obtain national affiliation (*the Beta Pi Chapter of Sigma Sigma Sigma*).

**Maria Quichocho**, a student from Guam, enrolled in the home economics program at Stout.

**Dr. Esther McGinnis**, a field worker in family life education of the American Home Economics Association, directed a two-day workshop in family life education, sponsored by the School of Home Economics.

## 1953

"College Co-eds Take Woodworking" was the title of a *Dunn County News* article featuring woodworking students at Stout. An accompanying photograph showed three women working in the painting and general finishing shops. <sup>23</sup>

Dietetics internships were awarded to six seniors: **Phyllis Allman**, Colorado General Hospital, Denver; **Phyllis Horning**, Women's Specialist Corps of the Department of the Army; **Jean Kelton**, Veteran's Administration Hospital,

## Stout Faculty Wives

**Ada Fryklund**, President Fryklund's wife, and **Marjorie Bowman**, wife of Dean Clyde Bowman organized Stout Faculty Wives in 1947. All faculty wives were expected to join and to attend monthly meetings. Through membership in this organization, new faculty wives were socialized into the Stout community.

President Fryklund strongly felt that faculty wives should support their husbands' work and serve the university in a multitude of ways. He often called upon the organization to put on university teas and receptions. They were a very active group.

During the late 1940s, they sponsored a Girl Scout troop, set up a sewing machine service for student wives at Fair Oaks Housing, packed and mailed clothing to the overseas needy,

sponsored one of the weekly teas held in the home economics tearoom, and served the senior graduation reception as well as providing childcare for those graduating.

In the mid-1950s, they held weekly parties for the wives of summer school students, also arranging for childcare on these occasions.

During the 1960s, Stout Faculty Wives became much more of a social club, members participating in outings to the Twin Cities for theatre performances and shopping. They also provided scholarships for Stout students.

In 1975-76, the organization renamed itself Stout Community Women and invited wives of classified employees and women faculty to join. Due to the changing roles of women, the organization was disbanded in 1985.

Hines, Ill.; **Joan Lee**, University of Indiana at Bloomington; **Mary Ann Moore**, University of Wisconsin Hospital, Madison, Wis.; and **Beatrice Flemming**, St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester, Minn.

**Ellen Russell** was the *first* woman linotype operator trained at Stout. She was trained by Lloyd Whydotski.

### 1954

**O. Ardis Thvedt**, instructor of related art, sold two art prints to the Victoria Art Gallery, Victoria, B.C., for its permanent art collection.

**Beth Bailey McLean**, BS '18, (*the first woman to graduate in the four-year home economics course at Stout*) spoke on President Harvey's philosophy of making students "stop, look, and listen."<sup>24</sup> In the 1930s, she organized the home economics division for Swift and Company, Chicago, and served as its director for many years. She was given the Distinguished Alumni Award in 1969.

Dean Kirk offered a summer course titled

"Home Economics in Radio and TV" to eight women. As part of the course, a series of programs called "Stout Speaks" were aired over WMNE.

**Alyce Vanek** started her teaching career at Stout in the area of clothing and textiles, teaching millinery. (*She was known in Menomonie for her large hats.*) In the early 1960s, she served first as national chair, and, and then, as planning chair, for the National Conference on Textiles and Clothing. (*See tour sidebar, page 23*) She retired in 1974.

### 1955

Stout Institute became Stout State College and came under the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents of the State Colleges.

Nine Stout students visited the United Nations. Eight of these students (*six women and two men*) with **Patricia Jensen** acting as chair, made a presentation to the Menomonie Rotary Club.

At Stout's fourth annual Guidance Conference, **Carol Duncan**, director of dormitories at Stout



A dorm scene at the Bertha Tainter Annex, circa 1950.



*I* have found that my unusual college training has been very enlightening, proving that women can do anything they set out to accomplish, and that these so-called man-sized jobs are really lady-sized after all.<sup>25</sup>

*Marge Strombeck*

*Stout State College junior*

*majoring in industrial education*

and member of the college counseling staff, described the use of role playing in the classroom. Four women students demonstrated techniques of leading in counseling interviews.

**Dorothy Belisle**, pianist, and **Joan Scheeval**, clarinetist, were two of the three featured soloists

in the Symphonic Singers' appearance before the biennial convention of the National Federation of Music Clubs of America, meeting in Miami, Florida. Upon graduation in 1956, Belisle had completed four years as accompanist with the Stout Band and the Symphonic Singers.

**Phyllis Bentley** became library director, succeeding Lillian Froggatt. Bentley retired in 1971.

### Royal Recognition

*O*ver the years, a number of Stout students have been awarded various crowns. Among them were:

**Barbara Brown** was crowned Wisconsin's Alice in Dairyland in 1955.

**Carol Lehman** was crowned National Honey Queen in 1955.

In 1972, **Sue Nass**, a freshman majoring in clothing and textiles, was chosen as Miss Wisconsin Universe.

**Jennifer Woychik**, was the reigning Miss Wisconsin in 1977.

**Wendy Wagner** became Miss Wisconsin in 1983, after first winning the title of Miss Menomonie.

**Stephanie Roth**, a sophomore, was named 1984 Wisconsin State Pork Queen.

In 1987, **Daphne Brown**, was first runner up in the Miss Pan-African Pageant.

### 1955-1956

**Pat Soldner** was chosen State Homemaker of Tomorrow for 1955.

**Sharon Athorp** won second prize in the National Ethics Essay Contest.

### 1956

Senior **Ardis Carr**, as president of Province VII home economics club chapters (*representing the four states of Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, and Wisconsin*), presided over their annual convention.

Members of Stout's Women's Recreational Association tied for first place at a Sports Day held at La Crosse State College. They competed with women from colleges in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa. Their adviser was **Irene Erdlitz**.

**Judy Day** and **Shirley Lundeen**, seniors, were awarded graduate assistantships on the staff of Pennsylvania State University.

**Rosemary Ackley** of Drummond, Wis., a member of the Chippewa tribe, enrolled at Stout.

### Terrific Tours

In 1955, Dean Alice Kirk and Alyce Vanek directed a 12-day tour to Puerto Rico for 32 people. (16 of them were women students from Stout; others were Stout alumni or friends of Stout.) They visited a pineapple plantation, a cannery and sugar enterprise, textile centers, the El Yunque national rainforest, and the National Girl Scout Camp of Puerto Rico.

In 1964, the pair led a 10-day Easter Tour to the Netherland Antilles, advertised by the World Travel Service Brochure as "Another Travel Adventure with Alice and Alyce." The brochure promised that "their leadership abilities, charm and enthusiasm for travel will make your trip an enriching experience and a never-

to-be-forgotten vacation."

Before she retired in 1974, Vanek also led a Christmas Caribbean Tour and a month-long trip to the Orient.<sup>26</sup>

Hazel Van Ness, a professor of clothing and textiles, was also known for her tour leadership. She retired in 1968 after her fifth Fashion and Fabric Tour to Europe with Stout students (*and 39 years at Stout*). Her tours were very well organized; participants visited European centers of design as well as clothing and textile manufacturers. Quality academic information was central to each tour with participants also enjoying the art and cultural aspects of each country visited.

She was the first member of any generation of her family to go to college. She is also the first identified Native American woman to attend Stout.<sup>27</sup>

Students Ruth Olson and Sharon Hansen were recognized for their outstanding 4-H work at the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago.

### 1957

Stout State College Infirmary closed in January.

Fern Mathey, a senior, was one of four Wisconsin students selected to go abroad on the International Farm Youth Exchange, spending six months living with farm families in Europe.

### 1959

Mary Donley came to Stout as a library cataloguer and worked in a variety of positions in the library until her retirement in 1990.

Maria Quiros became the first identified Hispanic woman to attend Stout.<sup>28</sup>

### 1960

Stout initiated a program whereby women could take college work for one year at Stout and then be

admitted into the nursing program at Madison General Hospital.

### 1961

Williams J. Micheels became the fourth president of Stout State College.

Evelyn Rimel became a faculty member at Stout, as head of the family life department in the School of Home Economics. (*See Biographical Portraits*)

Carol Peterson was honored as the editor of *The Stoutonia*.

### 1962

Three women students studied at the Merrill-Palmer Institute in Detroit to gain special training in child development.

Mary Schultz, a student, was the national winner in the Pillsbury Award Program. Another student, Carolyn Spargo, represented Wisconsin in the national 4-H Scholarships Award Program.

Two cheerleaders, Kathy Waldschmidt and Linda Paulos, conducted a clinic for more than 100 high school cheerleaders. (*The first such clinic?*)

**1963**

**Donna Hersbrunner**, a student, was awarded the Wisconsin 4-H Key Award Scholarship.

**Gladys Trullinger**, head of the department of home management and family economics, became acting dean of the School of Home Economics upon Dean Kirk's retirement, and then assistant dean under Dean Agnes Ronaldson. Trullinger came to Stout in 1936 and died while still a faculty member in 1965. For many years, she served as director of the home management house.

**1964**

Stout State College became Stout State University, a name change authorized by the Board of Regents.

**Lou Ann Isenberg**, a student, was chosen to serve on the *Mademoiselle* National College Board.

**1965**

**Agnes Ronaldson** became the dean of the School of Home Economics, a position she held until 1969. She came to Stout because she "sensed a very genuine atmosphere of desire to break new ground in home economics."<sup>29</sup> During her tenure, she initiated reorganization of departments and broadened the scope of majors offered. Her dream to establish a child and family study center, was realized only after she left Stout.

**Frances Zuill**, Diploma '13, became the *first* recipient of Stout's Distinguished Alumni Award.

**Velma Linford**, one of the country's leading women educators and director of the rural projects division, Office of Economic Opportunity, delivered the June commencement address.

**Jane M. Leary**, '65, became one of ten national recipients of a \$500 Mead Johnson and Company Scholarship for a dietetics internship.

**1965-1966**

**Marybelle Hickner** began teaching at Stout in home economics education. She served more than

10 years as program director for home economics education. After her retirement in 1984, she left monies to be used for conferences, the *first* faculty member to do so. (See 1986 entry, page 30)

**Wanda Laird** served in the Peace Corps in Brazil before enrolling at Stout in the fall. **Marilyn Sill**, '65, joined the Peace Corps, serving in Cameroon. **Leslie Moberg** began Peace Corps work in Brazil in 1966. (The first women students from Stout to serve in the Peace Corps?)

Stout's *first* Pom Pom Squad was formed by 20 freshmen women for the purpose of supporting intercollegiate athletic events.

**Norma Drake**, a student, won first place at the Minnesota State "Make It With Wool" Contest.

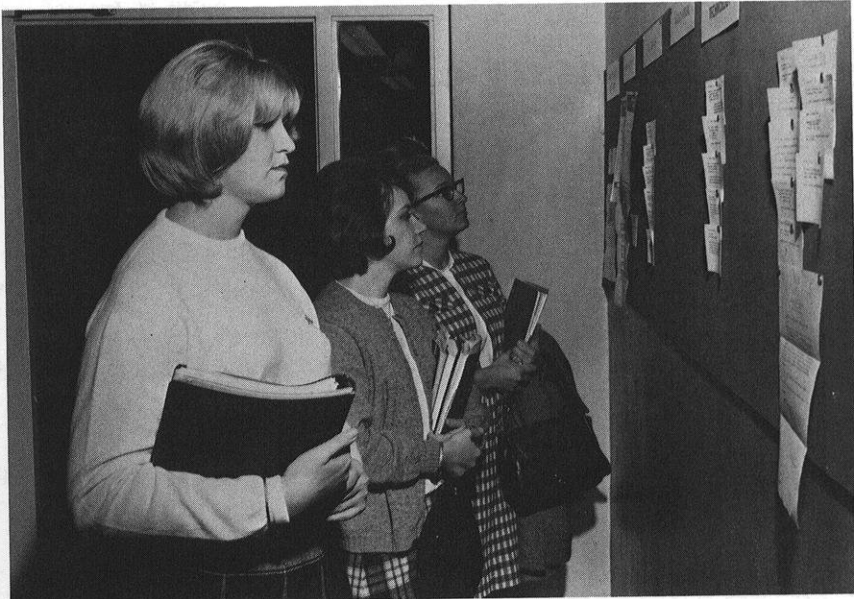
**Lucy Craig** served as editor of *The Stoutonia*.

**1966**

**Judy Evenson**, a home economics education major, was one of seven U.S. students to receive a Sargeant Shriver Scholarship, allowing her to live

**She's Alone in the Lead**

In 1962, freshman **Lana Pederson** was the only woman at Stout (out of 900 students) who was majoring in industrial education or industrial technology. She is shown here working on a project in her introductory metals course.



Checking out job listings on the placement bulletin board.

in Iran during the summer.

**Nelva G. Runnalls** came to Stout as a chemistry teacher. (See *Biographical Portraits*)

**Stella Pedersen**, dean of women and professor of education, resigned after five years to go to Madison Business College. **Freda Wright** replaced her.

**Pearl Buck** presented a talk at Stout.

### 1966-1967

**Barbara Gardner** served as president of the Stout Student Association.

**Dee Berglin** became the *first* woman to complete the safety minor.

### 1967-1968

The School of Home Economics added four new majors: clothing and textiles, fashion merchandising, hotel and restaurant management, and home economics in business.

The *first* identified Afro-American woman student, **Glena Wesley**, enrolled at Stout.<sup>30</sup>

### 1969

Stout's women gymnasts won the state WARFCW meet with a point total of 57.5; their closest competitor was Oshkosh with 44 points.

**Helen Van Zante** came to Stout at the beginning of the 1969-1970 academic year as professor of home management. She wrote *Household Equipment Principles*, *Housing Principles*, and *Family Housing Resource Book*. She is perhaps best known for her work in microwave oven systems, writing the *first* microwave cookbook, *The Microwave Oven*, (1973), as well as the *first* microwave lab manual. She developed microwave courses, and designed the household equipment laboratories and the family housing laboratory. Named Outstanding Educator of America in 1974, Van Zante retired from Stout in 1975.<sup>31</sup>

The journey to happiness is not a curving arc but a series of jagged lines that often pierce one's heart in the process, but, in their cutting, can also free one's spirit. ... We [women] must develop our independence even as we acknowledge that we are interdependent with all other human beings and all else in creation. We must continue to learn and read and ask, all the while knowing that we ourselves are the ultimate experts for our own lives. ... We must ... if we are to live, take the time to define who we are, trust ourselves to make decisions for our lives, and then act them out. ... Even as we understand that moments—and life—do not last, we must open ourselves to each of them fully or we will never catch even a glimpse of what happiness is all about."<sup>32</sup>

*Lee Morical in her book*

*Where's My Happy Ending?*

### 1970

**Freda Wright** became the *first* dean of student activities.

The Child and Family Study Center was built.

**Beverly Schmalzreid** came to Stout as a member of the human development, family living, and community educational services department. She started the *first* program for infants and toddlers in the home economics building. While at Stout, she served as department chair, and directed three graduate programs in the School of Home Economics: professional development; clothing, textiles and related art; and home economics education. In 1980, she left to become chief of child care for the U.S. Air Force.

### 1971

The Wisconsin State Universities and the University of Wisconsin campuses merged to form the

University of Wisconsin System. Stout State University then became UW-Stout.

**Muriel Humphrey**, wife of former Vice President Hubert Humphrey, spoke at Stout.

**Lee Morical**, MS '71, Counseling and Psychological Services Department, started the Center for Women's Alternatives, the *first* counseling center for women in rural Wisconsin. In 1975, she founded Women Helping Women/Peer Counseling Training, a program to train housewives as paid, paraprofessional counselors. (*This project was funded by the U.S. Department of HEW.*) As an advocate for women, she appeared on nationally syndicated television talk shows, including the Phil Donahue Show in 1980. She wrote *Where's My Happy Ending? Women and the Myth of Having It All*. Before her death from cancer in 1989, she received a doctorate of Ministry from the Ecumenical Theological Center, Detroit. She inspired many women, both regionally and nationally.

Nelva Runnalls became the *first* woman chair of the Faculty Senate.

A Faculty Women's Conference was held at Stout to improve communication among women on Wisconsin's university campuses. Stout faculty instrumental in this endeavor were **Freda Wright**, dean of student activities; **Helen Van Zante**, habitation resources; and **Lee Morical**, director of the Center for Women's Alternatives.

The *first* issue of "*Happenings*," a monthly newspaper for and about women, was published by the Center for Women's Alternatives, the Stout Ministry.

### 1972

Robert S. Swanson, BS '49, MS '50, became Chancellor. His wife, the former **Margaret Pennington**, BS '48, was instrumental in researching *Women at Stout*.

New visitation policies allowed students to lock their doors while having guests in their rooms. It also extended room visitations to 2 A.M. on Friday and Saturday nights.

**LaDonna Harris**, a Commanche, who was founder and president of Americans for Indian Opportunity and convener of the Women's Political Caucus, keynoted Stout's Guidance Conference.

**Angela Davis**, feminist and Marxist scholar, spoke at Stout.

### 1973

Classes began in the new Home Economics Building. Within this building, a space for the practicum in retail course's store was provided under the guidance of faculty member **Marcia Metcalf**. For a few years before this, the practicum's retail store had been located in the basement of the local business, K Bliss. This practicum store became known as The Niche.

Faculty member **Karen Zimmerman** started the *first* day care center in the Home Economics Building.

### Affirmative Action

Stout's Affirmative Action Program was established in 1972.

**Jane Rosenthal** was appointed as the *first* affirmative action director (25% allocation). She retired in 1983.

**Dayle Mandelson** succeeded interim director Earl Gierke in 1985 (50% allocation), and served until 1988.

**Virginia Wolf** was then appointed director (still only 50% allocation). In 1989, Wolf's administrative duties were enlarged to include faculty personnel liaison work. With this change came a full time appointment and a new title, special assistant to the chancellor.<sup>33</sup>

**Lydia Rutkowski**, economics faculty member in the social science department, became the *first* woman from Stout to lead the university's Soviet Seminar Tour to the U.S.S.R.

The athletic department began a new program for athletic trainers. The *first* women to enroll were **Margaret Goedjen** and **Nancy Nebling**.

### 1974

The University Counseling Center purchased a series of pamphlets titled *Catalyst* to help answer college women's questions about combining career and marriage.

United Sisters, a local women's group affiliated with the National Organization of Women (NOW), began to sponsor women's studies at Stout.

In April, the Art Gallery presented an exhibition of Menomonie women artists.

The School of Industry and Technology sponsored a two-week summer workshop, titled "Cods in Industry," for high school women to acquaint them with industrial teaching and industrial management opportunities.



**1976**

In a judo tournament at UW-Stevens Point, **Patty Grant**, of the Stout Judo Club, won a gold medal in the women's advanced division; **Joanne Lynch**, also from Stout, won silver medals in both the women's novice and the advanced divisions.

**1977**

The Women's Studies minor was approved under the leadership of faculty members **Janet Polansky** and **Beatrice Bigony**.

A four-day Feminist Art Workshop, sponsored by Applied Arts Gallery 209, provided women students with the opportunity to explore their feminine creativity. **Mary Hovind**, art department media specialist, was instrumental in its creation.

**Sue Stephenson**, was the *first* woman tenured in the Counseling Center, following the tenure of three males. In 1991, she was still the only tenured woman member of the Counseling Center.

**Patricia Hansen** was the *first* recipient of the annual Paul Menges Business Administration Scholarship.

**Karen Keypost** was the *first* winner of the Mental Health Association of Dunn County Scholarship.

**1978**

**Rowena Buckley** became the *first* woman to hold the newly created position of payroll and benefits supervisor, a position she still held in 1991.

**Ann Yurcisin, MS '78**, became the *first* director of Services for Students with Disabilities, a position she still held in 1991.

**1979**

The only woman construction worker on Stout's new library was **Debbie Green**. She later became an instructor in Stout's English department in the spring of 1988.



Browsing in the Niche, 1975.



By the 1980s, women were pursuing non-traditional majors.

### 1980

**Gerane T. Dougherty** became the third dean of the School of Liberal Studies, and the *first* woman to hold this position.

The Business and Professional Women's Club was started by **Deb Randall**, a program coordinator in the continuing education office.

*Termites*, a successor to a number of Stout student literary publications, changed its name to *Prometheus*. In 1991, many women students still contributed to this creative arts journal.

### 1981

**Gloria Steinem**, founder of *MS.* magazine and feminist activist, spoke at Stout as part of the University Speakers Series.

After working on the Ethnic Services Center staff for two years, **Linda Torres** became the *first* woman and the *first* minority woman director of the center, a position she held until August 1991.

**Marilyn Sample Romenesko** became the *first* woman to serve as assistant director of physical plant and management, physical plant and grounds. (*The community women who raised funds to grade the Stout Institute grounds in 1898 would have enthusiastically approved of this appointment.*) She was the only woman grounds supervisor in the UW System, a distinction she still held in 1991.

### 1982

A Women's Studies Resource Center was set up by the Women's Studies Committee, with **Nancy Moynihan** acting as coordinator.

**Dorothy Krushas Dale**, '52, became the *first* director of cooperative education, after serving at Stout in a number of capacities including the director of the secondary vocational evaluation project in the Center for Vocational, Technical, and Adult Education. She continued as director of cooperative education until she retired in 1990.



**1983**

**Edith Allen**, '73, was appointed to the Wisconsin Board of Aging and Long Term Care by Governor Earl.

**1984**

**Coretta Scott King**, wife of the late Martin Luther King, spoke at Stout.

**Rosemary Jacobson** became the *first* woman director of the Stout's Teleproduction Center, a position she still held in 1991.

**Lori Schroeder**, an instructor in the speech department, initiated a program on WVSS (*Stout's radio station*). Called "Moving Right Along," the program interspersed music with discussion of women's issues.

**Celia Lausted**, '55, celebrated the passage of Wisconsin's *Property Rights of Married Persons; Marital Property Act*. She was instrumental in creating and lobbying for the bill for eight years. Under the law, all property accumulated during the marriage belongs to the couple equally no matter who earned the income.<sup>34</sup>

**Charla Meisel**, a student, took part in the 1984 American Forensics Association national competition after qualifying by taking two first place state championships in prose and poetry.

**Maggie Foote**, '74, became director of the Mabel Tainter Memorial, a position she still held in 1991. As a student at Stout, she competed in amateur talent contests, winning one in 1971. She also served as president of the Stout Alumni Association from 1986 to 1988.

In September, nearly 70 women marched to protest violence towards women, children and men in a march known as "Take Back the Night."

**Nancy Zedler**, a senior, was named an academic All-American for her performances on the tennis court and in the classroom.

**1985**

**Maya Angelou**, Afro-American writer and essayist, spoke at Stout.

**JoAnn Prange** was elected president of the

Stout Student Association.

**Ann Yurcisin**, director of Services for Students with Disabilities, was the *first* of several women to attend the prestigious Summer Institute for Women in Higher Education Administration, held at Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Penn. She was followed by **Linda Torres**, director of the Ethnic Services Center, in 1989, and **Virginia Wolf**, special assistant to the chancellor, in 1990.

**Jane Young**, a senior, received a Presidential Award for contributions to better understanding and acceptance of people with handicaps, an award presented by the American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine.

**1986**

For the *first* time in Stout's history, two women, **Sheila Geere** and **Sue Meyer**, made All-American in the NCAA Divison III track meet.

In October, the *first* Marybelle Hickner Symposium on Aging was held.

**1987**

**Sue Schmitt** was named Stout's *first* woman associate vice chancellor.

**Sylvia Gengenbach** became the *first* director of the English Language Institute, after initiating and developing the program to provide English language support services, including English as a second language for the campus. As of 1991, Gengenbach was still in this position.

**Stephanie Molstre**, a student, was awarded "Best of Show" in the Wisconsin Arts West Exhibition held in Eau Claire.

Handicapped women at Stout formed a club known as Handicapped Organized Women (HOW).

**1987-1988**

This was the *first* year of the Dahlgren Professorships, endowed by **Borghild Eng Dahlgren**, Diploma '18, and her husband, Reinhold, Diploma '17. Among early recipients were: **Priscilla Huffman**, School of Home Economics, 1987;

**D**iversity at this university [Stout] and in our society at large is not a women's issue, not an ethnic minority issue, but diversity must be regarded simply as an *American* or societal issue...one which is valid for active participation of minorities and non-minorities alike.... We now live in a global, multicultural world...where decisions and values held by cultures and peoples on the far side of the globe impact directly on individual, family, economic, political and other structures here in our immediate environment.... If higher education is to have a role in preparing the masses and enhancing the economic well-being of this nation, ... if higher education is to contribute to this nation's ability to regain its international competitive edge by using all human resource potential, ... if higher education is to remain relevant to the needs of the "real world,"... then maximum in people, programs, outreach, and perspective is a necessity in higher education."<sup>35</sup>

*Esther Glover Fahm*

*Dean of the School of Home Economics*

**Carol Hogstad**, School of Education and Human Services, 1989; **Karen Zimmerman**, School of Home Economics, 1989; **Anita Wilson**, School of Home Economics, 1990; and **Martha Wallen**, School of Liberal Studies, 1990.

### 1988

**Wendy Heineke** won the national championship in both the 50-yard freestyle and the 100-yard backstroke, and finished second in the 100-yard freestyle at the NAIA national swim meet, leading Stout to an overall sixth place finish. In spring 1989, she was named "Swimmer of the Year."

Charles W. Sorensen became Chancellor.

**Charlotte Fritsche Perkins**, '78, was the first woman inducted into Stout's Athletic Hall of Fame. In her three-year swimming career at Stout, she earned six conference titles. She was recognized seven times for All-American performances at national meets.

**Jan Coker** and **Eileen Ward** were selected by the art department as the 1988-89 student artists-in-residence.

**Renee Ertl**, a student, was selected from nearly 9,000 applicants to tour as part of the "Up With People" performing group.

**1989**

**Jan Womack** was hired as Stout's *first* woman assistant chancellor for administrative services.

**Jill Swigsum**, a sophomore, won the 1989 "Make It Yourself With Wool" competition.

**April Frelke** was elected president of the Stout Student Association.

**Gladys Earl**, faculty member in food and nutrition, was named Career Woman of the Year by the Menomonie Area Working Women Association.

**Annette Caruso-Howatt** became the *first* woman director of physical education and athletics, a position she held until July 1991.

**1990**

**Diane Moen** became the *first* woman deputy assistant chancellor. Stout's *first* woman controller, Moen was also the *first* woman to be appointed controller in the UW System.

**Esther Glover Fahm** became the *first* minority and *first* woman minority dean of the School of Home Economics.

**Pat Wenner Reisinger**, BS '61, MS '67, became the *first* woman executive director of the Stout University Foundation and Alumni Services. She had served as president of the Alumni Association from 1979-1981, and was hired as the *first* associate director of the Stout University Foundation and Alumni Services in 1982.

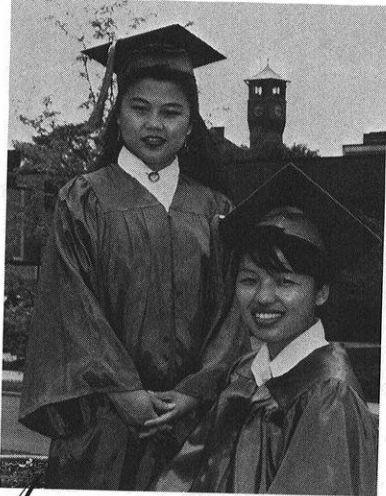
**Sue Foxwell**, Center for Vocational, Technical and Adult Education was co-author (with *Barbara Bitters, DPI*) of *A Guide to Achieving Gender Equity in Career and Vocational Education*. The publication resulted from her grant work in the 1980s developing both an assessment system for gender equity for K-12 and a staff development equity process in gender planning.

**Gloria Bjornerud** was Stout's *first* woman institutional planning and capital budget officer.

**1991**

In March, during Stout's centennial year, **Lillian Jeter** also celebrated her 100th Birthday! (See *Biographical Portraits*)

**First Hmong Women Graduates**



At the May 1991 commencement, the *first* two Hmong women graduated from Stout: **Mao Yang**, (left) hotel and restaurant management, and **Nou Yang**, (right) apparel design and manufacturing.

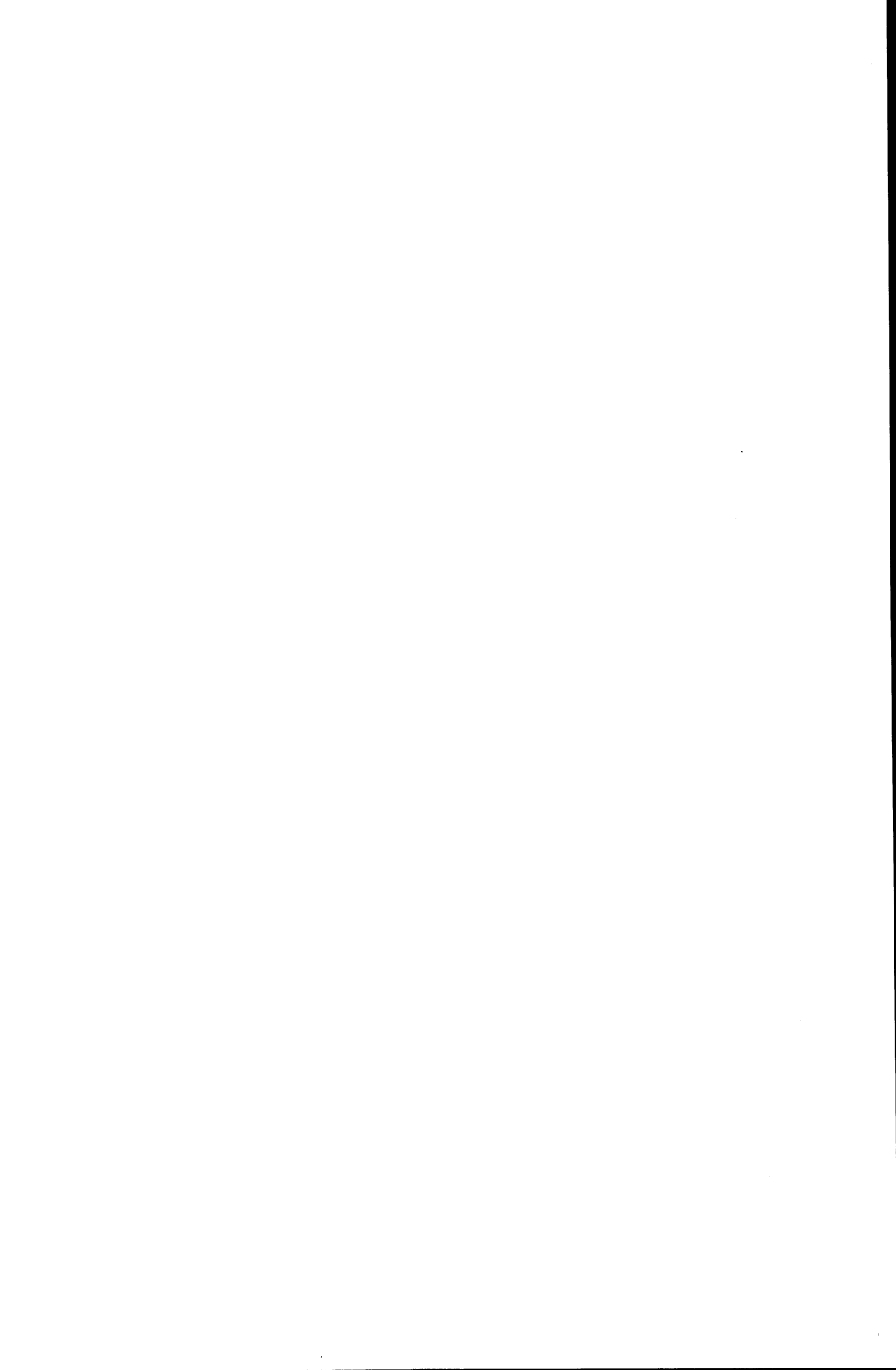
**Faculty Women at Stout**

When the Stout Manual Training School opened in 1891, two women served on the faculty. By 1991, the number of women faculty had risen to 207.

**Faculty Women By Year**

1891 .....	2	1950 .....	21
1905 .....	10	1955 .....	21
1915 .....	25	1960 .....	38
1920 .....	19	1965 .....	38
1925 .....	31	1970 .....	86
1930 .....	25	1975 .....	112
1935 .....	23	1980 .....	144
1940 .....	21	1985 .....	148
1945 .....	24	1991 .....	207

*Section Two*  
BIOGRAPHICAL PORTRAITS



## KATE MURPHY

DIRECTOR & TEACHER OF ART  
1894-1913

*R*ate Murphy attended the St. Louis School of Fine Arts, 1887-1889, and the New York School of Technical Design, 1889-1890. She studied in New York studios from 1890 to 1892. She was director of the art department, Elmwood Normal School, Farmington, Missouri, 1888-1889, and taught drawing in the Chicago Public Schools, 1893-1894. Hired by James Huff Stout, she came to Menomonie in 1894 as director of art in the Menomonie Public Schools and the Stout Manual Training School. In her position as director of art, she was the driving force behind the training in the arts, formulating an art program for each grade level, kindergarten through high school, which "the teachers were under strict orders to follow."<sup>1</sup> She also initiated the program of art courses for the Stout Manual Training School, for both the men in manual training and the women in domestic science. She held this dual appointment until the end of the 1906-1907 academic year when she went to Europe to study in art schools. At the beginning of the 1908-1909 school year, she returned to Menomonie as Director of Art, Stout Institute, continuing her affiliation with Stout Institute until the end of the 1912-1913 academic year. Where she went after leaving Stout Institute is unknown.



During her years at Stout, she and Sen. Stout made trips to Boston and Chicago to collect art for use in teaching. Stout also financed Murphy's trips to Japan and "around the world" for the collection of art objects. In 1906, an art museum with several rooms on the upper floor of the Manual Training Building housed this collection, which Mary Bradford describes in her memoirs as follows:

There were paintings and tapestries, vases, and statuary, large glass wall-cases containing priceless shawls, rare laces, and historic garments; there were glass enclosed floor-cases filled with fascinating arrays of curios of all sort: carved ivory from the Orient, choice miniatures, and fans with historic associations.<sup>2</sup>

There are several pictures of this collection, including pictures showing students using part of it in a drawing class. What became of this collection is unknown.

# MARY M. MCCALMONT

CHEMISTRY PROFESSOR  
1912-1952

**B**orn in rural Adams County, Iowa, in 1882, Mary McCalmont attended high schools in Iowa, Michigan and Pennsylvania. She received a bachelor of science degree in 1906, and her master's degree in chemistry in 1921. Before coming to Stout in 1912, she taught in a one-room school in Pennsylvania, a missionary school in West Virginia, was a principal of a high school and supervisor of music in Ohio, and taught voice, piano and organ in the Omaha city schools.



Fondly referred to as "Mary Mac," McCalmont taught chemistry courses at Stout, authored two laboratory manuals, served as an adviser to the YWCA and the Science Club, and counseled many students. Years later one student wrote, "She had a wonderful influence upon many of us, both in and out of classes."<sup>3</sup> She served on many faculty committees, was a long-time member of the local chapter of American Association of University Women, and the local and national branches of the American Chemical Society

McCalmont actively updated her teaching knowledge, researching various industries and laboratories which were directedly related to industrial arts and home economics. She also visited college and university laboratory facilities.

McCalmont was department chair when she retired in 1952, after 40 years of teaching at Stout. In 1963, the new women's dormitory was named in her honor. The following poem is illustrative of her work as a teacher:

*Miss McC is my teacher, I shall not pass.  
She maketh me to explain vague theories  
and exposeth my ignorance to the class.  
She restoreth my sorrow.*

*She causes me to write structural formulas for my classes sake.  
Yea, though I study 'til midnight  
I shall gain no knowledge, for reactions trouble me.  
She prepareth a test for me in the presence of the learned.  
She giveth me a low mark.*

*Surely distress and sadness shall follow me all the days of my course.  
And I shall remain in my Chemistry class for ever.<sup>4</sup>*

## OLGA BREKKE

COOK & BAKER IN STOUT'S CAFETERIAS  
1922-1965

Olga Brekke was born in Menomonie, Wisconsin, in 1900, and came to Stout as a cook and baker in the Stout Institute Cafeteria in 1922. She was a very friendly person and helped create a warm atmosphere in the cafeteria. Everyone knew Olga. She was a very hard worker, sometimes having to work split shifts, going in early in the morning until early afternoon, and, then, returning in the late afternoon to work into the evening. She became famous for her pies and was known for "her unfailing cheerfulness and energy." Upon her retirement in 1965, she had "watched more than 10 student generations come and go," and commented that "some [students] worked so hard and had so little." She said that the most rewarding part of her job were the people, the students and faculty she had known.<sup>5</sup>



When she retired, she was given a silver tea service in appreciation of her dedicated service to Stout. She continued to live in Menomonie until her death in 1985.<sup>6</sup>

Photographs in the UW-Stout Area Research Center show her busily working in the kitchen or handing out food at student picnics. In the *1944 Tower*, one reads:

The Cafeteria—a place where faculty and students meet with a common motive—the place you enter with every intention of limiting yourself to a sandwich but, at the end of the line, find your tray loaded with the "special"—including a piece of Olga's apple pie.



# LILLIAN M. FROGGATT

HEAD LIBRARIAN  
1924-1955

Born in Springfield, Wisconsin, in 1890, Lillian M. Froggatt received her high school diploma from Middleton Schools, Middleton, Wisconsin in 1906, and then went to the University of Wisconsin, where she received her bachelor's degree in 1911. She taught German and English in a number of Wisconsin high schools and then returned to school, receiving her master's degree in library science from the University of Michigan in 1916. Later she took additional graduate work in library science at the University of Wisconsin, receiving a librarian's certificate in 1920. She worked in the Racine Public Library as a cataloguer (1920-21); in the Burlington (Wis.) Public Schools as a high school teacher and librarian (1921-23); and then returned to Racine Public Library as acting assistant librarian (1923-24). During the summer of 1922, she taught a library methods course at Oshkosh State Teachers College.



Upon her arrival at Stout in 1924 as head librarian, she not only had to ensure the smooth running of the library (*there had been a number of librarians in short succession before her arrival*), but she needed to improve the quality of the holdings, principally in the liberal arts areas in order for Stout to qualify for North Central Association accreditation. Except for a two months leave of absence in 1926 to travel in Europe, Froggatt worked diligently on upgrading the library. Due principally to her industrious efforts, Stout received its accreditation in 1928, and was given full college rank and recognition by NCA in 1932. By 1930, the library was noted as being "the most outstanding feature of the Stout Institute."<sup>7</sup>

By the mid-1940s, the library holdings had outgrown their space in Harvey Hall (30,000 volumes, 500 percent more than when the library moved there in 1916). Froggatt and her associates began plans for a new library. (*It is interesting to note that Froggatt's masters thesis had been written on how to build a library.*) In the early 1950s, the library was built and its dedication was held in June 1954.<sup>8</sup>

In June 1955, just a year after the completion of the new Pierce Library, Froggatt retired with the title of faculty emeritus. In recognition of her valued years of service to Stout, one wing of a dormitory complex was named Froggatt Hall. She continued to reside in Menomonie until her death in a car accident in 1969.

## GERTRUDE L. CALLAHAN

PROFESSOR & CHAIR OF THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT  
1927-1961

Gertrude L. Callahan was born in Trimbell, Wisconsin, in 1891. She received her high school diploma in Menasha, Wisconsin, in 1908. She then attended the State Teachers College at Oshkosh and Lawrence College before graduating with her bachelor's degree from the University of Chicago in 1912. She did graduate work at the University of Wisconsin at intervals between 1918 and 1927, receiving her master's degree in 1927. She studied English and Latin as an undergraduate, and English Literature in graduate school. She read French, German and Latin.



Before coming to Stout in the fall of 1927, Callahan taught high school in Wisconsin and North Dakota, and taught four years at the university level at Madison and Milwaukee. She did further graduate work at the University of Wisconsin in the summers of 1946 and 1948, and attended Bread Loaf (*Vt.*) in the summer of 1947. She had several sonnets published in the *National Poetry Anthology* (1953-55), and, with her sister Julia, translated two French books into English (1934, 1940). (*As an interesting aside, her father, John Callahan, served many years on Stout Institute's Board of Trustees.*)

Callahan became head of the English department after three years, serving until she retired in 1961. Held in great esteem by her students due to her helpfulness and great love of English literature, Callahan advised several student clubs (*including the literary publications*), served on various faculty committees, and was member of a number of professional organizations. She retired as professor emeritus of English. A dormitory wing was named in her honor. She died in 1990 at age 99, just missing Stout's (*and her own*) centennial celebration.

In a letter to President Micheels in 1968, she stated that she had "planned to be at Stout two years ... the two years became 34! ... Why? There was interesting work to do ... I am glad I made a contribution to the college. What I really was others can judge better than I can."<sup>9</sup> The 1934 *Tower* was dedicated to her as follows:

To Gertrude Callahan, the adviser who has kept us ever striving to produce a yearbook which would surpass all its predecessors, the 1934 *Tower* staff dedicates this *Tower* with the hope that there may be within its pages a part of the vision and understanding and loveliness which we have seen in her.

# LILLIAN C. JETER

CLOTHING AND TEXTILES PROFESSOR  
1927-1961

Lillian C. Jeter was born in Alden, Kansas, in March 1891, and graduated from Alden High School in 1910. She received her bachelor's degree from Kansas State Agricultural College in 1916, and her master's degree in home economics education from the Teachers College, Columbia University in 1925. She taught grade school in Alden, Kansas (1912-14) and high school in Fremont, Nebraska (1916-19). In the summer of 1919, she worked as a home demonstration agent for the University of Nebraska Extension. She was director of home economics, Nebraska Wesleyan University from 1919-1926, and head of the clothing department at Alabama College in 1926-27.



Jeter came to Stout Institute in September 1927, and, in 1928, became head of the clothing and textiles department. While at Stout, apart from her administrative and teaching responsibilities, she supervised student teachers in the home economics areas of clothing, art and textiles. She also served on many faculty committees. She was a tireless worker and was very helpful to students.

Jeter was a member of the American Economics Association, the National Education Association and the American Vocational Association. She retired from Stout in 1961. In her honor, a dormitory was named Jeter Hall. She celebrated her 100th birthday in spring 1991.

## RUTH E. MICHAELS

DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF HOME ECONOMICS  
1927-1947

Ruth E. Michaels was born in Berlin, Wisconsin, in 1885, and graduated from Berlin High School in 1901. She received diplomas from State Normal at Milwaukee in 1903 and from Stout Institute in 1905. She continued her education at the University of Chicago, where she received her bachelor's degree in 1922. Her graduate work at Columbia University culminated in a master's degree in 1923.



Michaels taught food and textile courses at Normal State Teachers College in Cape Girardeau, Missouri (1905-07), and was head of the department of food and textiles at Normal State Teachers College, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan (1907-11). At Iowa State, she was lunch room manager and instructor of foods (1911-13) and supervisor of practice teaching (1913-15). In 1915, she headed the department of home economics, State College, Stillwater, Oklahoma, and, later, dean of the home economics division (1916-21). From 1923-27, she taught home economics education at University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia.

In 1927, she became director of household arts (later designated as dean of home economics) at Stout Institute. Michaels contributed to the development of home economics in the secondary schools and wrote "*Suggestive Guides for the Improvement of Home Economics Teaching*" which was issued by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Active professionally, Michaels was a member of the American and Wisconsin Home Economics Associations (she served as president of the latter), and the American Vocational Association.

When she left Stout, the following statement appeared in the 1947 *Tower*:

The Home Economics Division of the college has undergone many improvements and innovations while Dean Michaels has been in charge. Always a friend and counselor of the women enrolled in Stout's Home Economics Division, Dean Michaels' interest in campus activities is shown in her faithfulness and ability which she has displayed in discharging the numerous duties and responsibilities of her position.

The students, faculty, and administration of Stout, having known Dean Michaels as a competent specialist in the educational field and as a person of dignity and charm, regret her leaving and we all know that the Stout Institute is now a better institution of learning for her having been a member of its faculty.

# GERTRUDE O'BRIEN

REGISTRAR & PLACEMENT CHAIRMAN  
1928-1955

Gertrude O'Brien was born in 1888 and graduated from Boscobel High School in 1907. O'Brien began her teaching career at Boscobel where she taught in the grade school (1912-16). She then attended La Crosse Normal, graduating in 1917. She continued her teaching in the public schools: Menomonie Junior High (1917-19), Arcadia High School (1921-23), St. Croix Falls (1923-25) and Ellsworth (1928). During the late 1920s, she attended the University of Wisconsin, receiving her bachelor's degree in education and history (1927) and her master's degree in history (1928).



In the summer of 1928, O'Brien applied for the position of Registrar and appointment secretary at Stout Institute. Correspondence between then President Nelson and her referents reflects some concern about whether her Catholic upbringing would make her too rigid to withstand possible derisive and/or blasphemous comments from students. Apparently, President Nelson's fears were allayed because she was hired at the beginning of the fall semester. Her position of registrar and appointment secretary later became registrar and placement chairman. Thus, O'Brien became responsible not only for student records, but also for student job placement after graduation and, by so doing, being the *first* person at Stout in charge of placement.

After 27 successful years at Stout, she retired in June 1955.

## S. KETURAH (KIT) ANTRIM

DEAN OF WOMEN  
DIRECTOR OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR WOMEN  
1936-1964

**B**orn in Pontiac, Illinois, in 1901, Sarah Keturah Antrim graduated from Pontiac Township High School in 1919. She received her bachelor's degree in biology from Lake Forest College in 1923 and her master's degree in physical education from the University of Wisconsin in 1932. She taught science, biology, mathematics and physical education in high schools in Illinois and Wisconsin before becoming an instructor of physical education and biology at Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, Virginia (1932-34). She returned to high school teaching for two years in La Crosse, Wisconsin, before coming to Stout.



Antrim joined the Stout faculty in the fall of 1936 as director of physical education for women. She was appointed the *first* dean of women in 1945 and served in this position, concurrently with her other position, until 1958. She continued to direct women's physical education until her retirement in 1964.

Antrim believed in physical education for all women. She was also an advocate of good posture, emphasizing it in her classes. In her freshmen physical education classes, Antrim took "before" and "after" pictures of each woman to determine the amount of posture improvement over the course of the semester.

An outgrowth of her work as dean of women was her interest in working toward the creation of a student center, a dream realized in 1947. She served on the student center committee and, after the center opened, she gave many hours to make it a success. She took a summer session leave in 1951 to take classes in student personnel administration and institutional management at Columbia University. She was a member of the National Education Association, the National Association of Deans of Women, the Wisconsin Association of Physical Education, and the American Association of University Women.

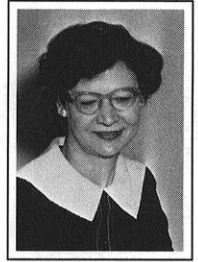
She resigned at the end of the first semester of the 1964-65 academic year. She was named professor emeritus in 1965 with President Micheels stating that "All of us at Stout ... extend our appreciation for your loyal and devoted service."<sup>10</sup> In 1966, a residence hall was named Antrim Hall in her honor.

After her retirement, she moved to Illinois. In 1973 she was married, for the first time, to E.A. Anderson.

# MINNIE BECKER

PRESIDENTS' & CHANCELLORS' SECRETARY  
1938-1978

Minnie Becker was born in Phelps, Wisconsin, in 1916, and graduated from Antigo High School in 1934 in the top 10 of a class of more than 150 students. She was unable to go to college as she had younger siblings to help support. Having taken shorthand and other commercial subjects in high school, she continued her schooling at the vocational school in Antigo. She worked in several different positions, including one in the Farm Security Administration, before exploring state employment possibilities.



Becker began employment at Stout in 1938 as a stenographer. She served almost six months as President Nelson's unofficial secretary before he officially appointed her to the position in 1938. Recalling that time, Becker commented that "He was a bit concerned that I may have been a little young to handle the position."<sup>11</sup> When Nelson retired in 1945, Becker stayed on in the president's office, working for President Fryklund until 1961, his successor President/Chancellor Micheels until 1972, and finally, Chancellor Swanson. She retired in 1978 after 40 years at Stout, with the unique distinction of serving as secretary to four of Stout's presidents and chancellors.

In addition to her duties as the president's secretary, Becker supervised the office staff, who performed secretarial work for the two deans, and handled all the mimeographing for the campus (*including faculty handouts, student service materials and campus directories*). She also attended faculty meetings, taking attendance and the official minutes. In her early years at Stout, she often took phone messages for faculty as they did not have office phones. Nor did faculty have their own keys. Since Becker lived close to campus, one of her unofficial duties was letting faculty into their offices on weekends.

Becker was organized and efficient. Any time that anyone wanted to know "anything about Stout," that person was referred to Minnie as "the person who knows everything." Dedicated service and loyalty to the presidents and chancellors were her hallmarks.

Two years before her retirement in 1978, Becker married Thomas Hengel. As of 1991, the Hengels spend their winters in Pharr, Texas, and their summers in Menomonie, Wisconsin.<sup>12</sup>



## ANNE C. MARSHALL

BIOLOGY PROFESSOR  
CHAIR OF THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT  
1939-1969

Born in Zanesville, Ohio, in 1904, Anne Marshall graduated from Zanesville High School in 1921, received her bachelor of science degree from Denison University in 1925, her master's degree from Ohio State University in 1928, and her doctorate from Ohio State University in 1939. She taught biology and music in two Ohio high schools (1925-26, 1927-29) before beginning to teach at the college level. She taught at McCook Junior College, Nebraska (1929-32), at Louisiana State at Monroe (1932-35), and at Ohio State University (1935-39) before coming to Stout.



An entomologist, Marshall joined the faculty of the science and math department in the fall of 1939. She became chair of the science department in 1945, a position she held until her retirement in 1969. During her tenure at Stout, she was selected to be on the Governor's Advisory Committee for Food Standards. She served on a number of faculty committees, notably the university curriculum and graduate committees. In addition to her regular teaching and administrative duties, for many years she was responsible for publication of Stout's course catalog (*usually a summer assignment*).

She was a member of Sigma Delta Epsilon (*Women in Science*), Sigma Xi and Alpha Phi, serving as adviser to Alpha Phi's local chapter at Stout after helping obtain its national affiliation. She was also a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the National Education Association and the Wisconsin Academy of Science. She was listed in *American Men of Science*, *Who's Who in American Education* and *Who's Who in the Midwest*.

As she approached retirement, President Micheels said of her: "Her contributions and dedication to education will be difficult to replace."<sup>13</sup> In 1991, a colleague remembered her as being very organized, very hard working, and very dedicated to Stout, saying that "she gave her whole life to Stout."<sup>14</sup>

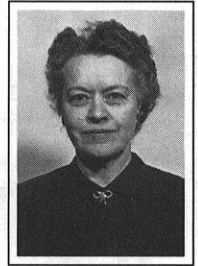
Following her retirement in 1969, she was named professor emeritus. In 1970, the biology laboratories were officially designated as the Anne C. Marshall Biology Laboratories in her honor.



# ALICE J. KIRK

DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF HOME ECONOMICS  
1947-1963

Alice J. Kirk was born in Kenosha, Wisconsin, in 1899, and graduated from Kenosha High School in 1916, received her bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1920, her master's degree from the Teachers College, Columbia University in 1935, and her doctorate in education from Columbia University in 1946. She taught home economics in Kenosha High School (1920-22) and then became head of the home economics department in the same school (1922-24). She worked for the University of Illinois Extension Division in 1926 and was supervisor of industrial food management, the Child's Company, Chicago, in 1927. Also in 1927, she began working as a regional director of Girl Scouts, overseeing activities in Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin, a position she held until 1934. From 1935-38, she was director of food administration at Rochester Athenaeum and Mechanics Institute (*later known as Rochester Institute of Technology*) and, in 1940-41, she was professor of nutrition at Fresno State. Just prior to coming to Stout in 1947, she served as director of the School of Home Economics at Russell Sage College (1942-46) and as director of the department of Home Economics, University of Denver (1946-47).



As dean of the School of Home Economics at Stout, she was instrumental in procuring "state of the art" food laboratories in the late 1940s, promoting large scale School of Home Economics open houses for high school women in the 1950s, and shepherding the growth of the School of Home Economics in the 1950s and early 1960s. Under her tutelage, the School of Home Economics began offering its first study tours (*primarily to Europe*). Her national stature within the field of home economics was acknowledged by her being selected to serve as a home economics educational consultant to the government of India, an appointment she was able to accept by taking a two-year leave of absence from Stout (*June 1959-June 1961*). Upon her return, she continued in her deanship for two more years, retiring in June 1963.

During her professional career, she was a member of the American Home Economics Association, the American Vocational Association, the American Association of University Professors, and the Business and Professional Women's Association.

## EVELYN G. RIMEL

PROFESSOR OF COUNSELOR EDUCATION  
1961-1978

Evelyn Rimel was born in a sod house on the eastern plains of Montana in 1911, and graduated from high school in 1928. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Montana State in 1932 and 1933, and her doctorate from Syracuse University in 1952. From 1933 to 1953, she served in a variety of teaching and counseling positions in Montana high schools, with a one-year stint as student dean at Syracuse in 1950-51. She then served as dean of students at Colorado Women's College in 1953-55, followed by a position as psychology professor, counselor, and director of family life and school health workshops at Normal State Teachers College, Aberdeen, South Dakota from 1955-60. In 1960, she studied at the Merrill Palmer Institute, Detroit, on a post-doctoral fellowship.



Rimel came to Stout in 1961 as head of the family life department in the School of Home Economics, and taught courses in education, philosophy and counselor education. In 1965, she was promoted to professor and concentrated her teaching in counselor education. She moved over to the counseling department in the School of Education after its creation in the late 1960s.

An effective presenter and promoter of community causes, Rimel served as president of the Dunn County Community Council, *first* chair of the Community Planning Board, and head of the Dunn County Association for Mental Health. She initiated proposals which funded the *first* Head Start Programs in Menomonie. As president of the Dunn County Community Council, she provided personal funds to establish the West Central Wisconsin Community Action Program. The *Dunn County News* stated that "Her drive to mobilize community resources for the benefit of the underprivileged is known throughout the state."<sup>15</sup>

In 1978, she received the Kathleen and Gilbert Wrenn Humanitarian and Caring Person Award from the American Personnel and Guidance Association. Stout's counseling laboratory was named in her honor. The commemorative plaque there states: "'Doc'—'Big Red' Rimel's counseling practicums set standards for preparation, dedication, and love for students, colleagues, and associated professionals throughout the state of Wisconsin and the nation."

When Rimel left in 1978 to take care of her parents, the university lost one of its most energetic and engaging personalities, and its foremost humanitarian.

# NELVA G. RUNNALLS

CHEMISTRY PROFESSOR  
DEAN OF ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT  
1966-1989

Nelva G. Runnalls was born in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1930, and graduated from Red Cloud High School, Red Cloud, Nebraska, in 1948. She earned a bachelor's degree from Kearny State College in 1951, her master's degree from Mankato State University in 1963, and her doctorate in nuclear chemistry from University of Missouri, Columbia, in 1966.

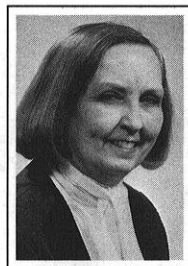
Runnalls and her husband joined the Stout faculty in 1966. From 1971-73, she served as chair of the chemistry department. In 1974, she became dean of the Graduate College, a position that continued to expand, and by 1978, was dean for curriculum, research and graduate studies; and by 1987, was dean for academic development, which she held until her untimely death in March 1989.

Runnalls was an active member of the faculty senate, and was its *first* woman chair in 1971-72. She was Stout's faculty representative to the West Central Wisconsin Consortium for several years, and served on a number of key search and screen committees. She served as Stout's acting vice chancellor in 1988.

She was associated with the prestigious Oak Ridge National Laboratory in the early 1970s, co-authoring an article on her research in the *Journal of Inorganic Nuclear Chemistry*. Runnalls was an American Association of University Women Fellow in 1965-66, and an American Council of Education Fellow in 1977-78. She was a member-at-large on the North Central Crediting Board and evaluated colleges and universities for the North Central Accreditation Association.

While at Stout, Runnalls' strong administrative talents were instrumental in improving instructional facilities, developing unified curriculum procedures for the university, and clarifying the academic planning process. She was known for her attention to detail and devotion to the university.

In her memory, her family presented Stout with an official mace. Engraved with the Latin motto *Docere—Cognitio—Servitio*, the three areas of faculty responsibility, the mace is used by the marshall to lead official academic processions, an appropriate memorial since Runnalls highly valued academic ceremony. Inscribed on it are these words: *In Memoriam, Nelva G. Runnalls, Ph.D., 1930-1989, Teacher—Scientist—Dean.*



# FOOTNOTES

## SECTION ONE: CHRONOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

1. *Dunn County News*, February 13, 1891.
2. *Dunn County News*, September 12, 1890.
3. *Interpreting the Dream – A Stout History*, page 21 features a photograph of the 1906 women's basketball team.
4. *Bulletin of Stout Training Schools*, Kindergarten Number, Vol. 11:4, December 1907.
5. *Bulletin of Stout Training Schools*, Vol. 11:3:39, September 1907. Students' Number.
6. *1936 Stout Tower*, page 101. The statement is questionable. The Stout Institute was not founded until 1908, and it cannot be confirmed that a practice house existed in 1904.
7. L.D. Harvey Papers, UW-Stout Area Research Center.
8. *Stout Alumnus*, Winter 1968.
9. *Dunn County News*, April 5, 1917.
10. *1921 Annual*.
11. *The Stout Institute Bulletin*, 1918-1919, page 16ff.
12. *The Stout Institute Bulletin*, 1922-1923.
13. Personal communication with Carolyn Barnhart, School of Home Economics, UW-Stout.
14. *Home Management Scrapbooks*, 1903-1967, Area Research Center, UW-Stout.
15. *1933 Stout Tower*, page 20.

16. 1933 *Tower*, page 99.
17. *The Stoutonia*, September 8, 1967.
18. *A Century of Caring, 1889-1989*, St. Marys Hospital of Rochester, Minnesota, 1988.
19. *Minority Historical Research Report*, 1991, Ethnic Services Center, UW-Stout.
20. *Milwaukee Sentinel*, November 3, 1945.
21. *Eau Claire Leader*, March 3, 1949.
22. *Milwaukee Journal*, May 17, 1951.
23. *Dunn County News*, April 8, 1953.
24. *Dunn County News*, July 21, 1954.
25. *Dunn County News*, May 11, 1955.
26. Information on Alice Vanek, UW-Stout Area Research Center.
27. *The Stoutonia*, January 25, 1957.
28. *Minority Historical Research Report*, 1991, Ethnic Services Center, UW-Stout.
29. *The Stoutonia*, October 1, 1965.
30. *Minority Historical Research Report*, 1991, Ethnic Services Center, UW-Stout.
31. Personal communication with Gail Misfeldt, School of Home Economics.
32. Lee Morical, *Where's My Happy Ending? Women and the Myth of Having It All*, 1984, pages 167-169.
33. Personal communication with Virginia Wolf, Assistant to the Chancellor, UW-Stout.
34. Kitz Cleary, *The Country Today*, March 21, 1984.
35. Esther Glover Fahm, from a presentation made at the Design for Diversity Conference at UW-Stout, November 1990.

## SECTION TWO: BIOGRAPHICAL PORTRAITS

1. Mary Bradford, *Memoirs of Mary D. Bradford*, page 324.
2. *Ibid.*, page 291.
3. Information on Mary M. McCalmont, UW-Stout Area Research Center.
4. *1915 Annual*, page 156.
5. *The Stoutonia*, February 5, 1965.
6. Personal communication with Neil and Isabel Brekke.
7. Kevin Thorie, "History of Stout's Library" in *Supporting the Stout Mission: A History of the University Library, 1891-1986*; Edited by Gayle Martinson; page 3.
8. *Ibid.*
9. Information on Gertrude Callahan, UW-Stout Area Research Center.
10. Information on S. Keturah Antrim, UW-Stout Area Research Center.
11. *Stout Alumnus*, Spring 1978, page 5.
12. Personal communication with Minnie Becker Hengel.
13. *The Stoutonia*, April 18, 1969.
14. Personal communication with George Nelson, School of Liberal Studies, UW-Stout.
15. *Dunn County News*, February 28, 1968.

# BIBLIOGRAPHY

AGNEW, DWIGHT

1968 "A History of Stout State University (1893-1966)" in *History of the Wisconsin State Universities*, edited by Walker D. Wyman (River Falls University Press: River Falls, Wisconsin), pp. 233-272.

1990 *James Huff Stout – Maker of Models*. University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents (University of Wisconsin-Stout: Menomonie, Wisconsin).

BRADFORD, MARY

1932 *Memoirs of Mary D. Bradford* (The Antes Press: Evansville, Wisconsin).

MORICAL, LEE

1984 *Where's My Happy Ending? Women and the Myth of Having It All* (Addison-Wesley Publishing Company: Reading, Massachusetts).

RIORDAN, DAN

1990 *Reminiscences – An Anthology of Oral History*. University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents (University of Wisconsin-Stout: Menomonie, Wisconsin).

THORIE, KEVIN

1987 "History of Stout's Library" in *Supporting the Stout Mission: A History of the University Library, 1891-1986*; Edited by Gayle Martinson (Library Learning Center, UW-Stout: Menomonie, Wisconsin).

UW-STOUT AREA RESEARCH CENTER

Most of the information contained in this publication is a result of research done in the UW-Stout Area Research Center. As the footnotes indicate, student annuals and newspaper accounts have been a chief source of information. However, a variety of other sources available in the center were consulted. Photographs, for the most part, were selected from the center's iconographic collection.

UW-STOUT OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

n.d. *Stout Campus Commemoratives*. Written by Catherine Courtney, research by Halsey Douglas (Office of University Relations, UW-Stout: Menomonie, Wisconsin).

1990 *Adventures in Innovation – The First 100 Years*. Stout centennial brochure.

1990 *Interpreting the Dream--A Stout History*. University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents (University of Wisconsin-Stout: Menomonie, Wisconsin).













