

2018

## Dedication Katherine E. Bruce

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## DEDICATION



### **Katherine E. Bruce**

Kate Bruce has been a smart and insightful, stalwart and gracious guiding force in the National Collegiate Honors Council for almost two decades. Since earning her PhD at the University of Georgia in 1984, she has spent her professional career at the University of North Carolina Wilmington, where she is now Professor of Psychology and Director of the Honors College. In her 2007 NCHC presidential speech at the annual conference, Kate emphasized the importance of bringing multiple disciplinary insights into the field of honors, and she used her substantial background in experimental psychology, especially animal behavior, to posit what she found significant in honors education. She concluded, “Unexpected, unanticipated, interdisciplinary: these features, once we have homed in on how to ask a question correctly, help us determine the significance of honors.” Kate has brought these values into the fields of both psychology and honors.

Although, as Kate pointed out in her speech, statistics are only part of what matters in determining significance, the numbers tell an interesting story about Kate’s scholarship, teaching, and service. She has, for instance, given 60 conference presentations on honors, published 30 articles in refereed

publications related to her academic disciplines, and supervised 21 undergraduate honors projects; these are but a fraction of her total contributions to honors scholarship. The CASE/Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching acknowledged her excellence as a teacher in selecting her as the North Carolina Professor of the Year in 2008. And we have all benefited from her outstanding service as a board member, vice president, president-elect, president, and past president of the NCHC as well as, since 2014, co-chair of Beginning in Honors.

The facts and data tell an important story about Kate, but her professional, moral, and personal significance to the NCHC and to the broader field of honors emanates from her respectful leadership, her quiet but forceful presence, and her unflagging devotion to students and colleagues. We reflect that devotion back to her in dedicating this volume of *Honors in Practice* to Katherine E. Bruce.