



CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY Faculty Senate

Constance Louise Hollinger passed away at age 70 on Friday, April 17, 2020 at the Ashtabula County Medical Center. Professor Hollinger was born on December 10, 1949 in Lititz, Pennsylvania to Morgan and Helen Hollinger. She graduated with a B.S. degree in Health and Physical Education, summa cum laude, from East Stroudsburg State College, and earned her M.S. degree in Psychology in 1973 from Millersville State College in Pennsylvania. She completed a Certificate program in School Psychology in 1973, also at Millersville State College. In 1975, Professor Hollinger was awarded a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from Case Western Reserve University; her dissertation was titled *The Effects of Student Sex, Birth Order, Dependency Needs, and Teacher Control Ideology on Teacher-Student Interaction*.

Following her graduation from CWRU, Professor Hollinger worked as a Project Manager, Project Director, and Instructor in several educational programs conducted in the Cleveland Public Schools, with funding support from the United States Department of Education and the George Gund Foundation. In 1978, she was appointed as an Assistant Professor in the Psychology Department at Lake Erie College, where she went on to serve as the Dean of Students from 1979 to 1981. In 1981, she joined the CSU faculty as an Assistant Professor of Psychology, and was promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure in 1984. Professor Hollinger served as the University Ombudsperson from 1995 until 1996, when she was appointed Dean of University Studies, a position she held until 2001. In 2002, she served as Consultant on Assessment and Program Evaluation for the Vice President of Student Affairs. Professor Hollinger returned to her faculty role in the Psychology Department later in 2002, and remained in this position until her retirement in 2014.

Throughout her career at CSU, Professor Hollinger was a devoted supporter of the Women's Comprehensive Program, serving on the program faculty, program council, and the search committee for a new program director. Beginning in 1990 and until her retirement in 2014, she served terms (including as co-chair) of the President's Advisory Committee on the Role and Status of Women. It would be difficult to identify any committee or program at CSU that did not benefit from her contributions; across five colleges over time, Professor Hollinger served as a member and chairperson of program review committees, faculty search committees, faculty review and promotion committees, and multiple other committees. At the university level, she was well known for her service on Faculty Senate and Steering, and she brought her insight and advocacy skills to assignments including affirmative action, human relations and campus unity, personal grievance resolution, equal opportunity review, strategic planning, urban education research, and Title III implementation.



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1949 – 2020

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Over several decades with Elise Fleming of CWRU, Professor Hollinger pursued her scholarly interest in gifted and talented young women, with a specific focus on their career and talent development. Later, she collaborated with Drs. Judy Genshaft and Marlene Bireley in publishing an edited book on this subject. Through its publication in the flagship journal of the American Educational Research Association, Professor Hollinger's work was shared with multiple audiences, including educators, counselors, psychologists, and fellow researchers. During the last 20 years of her career, Professor Hollinger studied the implementation of innovative academic, behavioral, and mental health service delivery models in PK – 12 schools throughout the state of Ohio. This work was recognized in a grant awarded by the Ohio Department of Education over a 5-year period from 1997 to 2002.

Professor Hollinger's CV lists more than 40 peer-reviewed publications and a dozen technical reports resulting from her leadership of projects conducted in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, the Ohio Inter-University Council for School Psychology, the Ohio Department of Education, and, most recently, the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania School District, where she served on a panel investigating the effectiveness of an urban educational reform initiative.

From 1984 until 1995, Professor Hollinger served as the Coordinator of the School Psychology program in the Department of Psychology. In this role, she led the program through successful accreditation proposals with the Ohio Inter-University Council for School Psychology and the National Association of School Psychologists. External to the university, Professor Hollinger was elected to leadership roles in various professional and educational organizations, including the State Superintendents Task Force; the Ohio Department of Education, Division of Special Education; the Inter-University Council for School Psychology; the Cuyahoga Special Education Resource Center; and the Cleveland Association of School Psychologists, which awarded her Honorary Lifetime Membership upon her 2014 retirement.

Professor Hollinger was a formidable and well-respected presence in the field of School Psychology in Ohio, beloved by generations of students, and respected by her colleagues. Hers was a voice of reason (enhanced by a keen sense of humor) in often-lively discussions at meetings of the Psychology Department, as well as professional committees and boards; her perspective of complex situations was both thoughtful and reliably straightforward. On a personal note, Professor Hollinger was a generous mentor who kept me abreast of campus politics, ran interference for me on more than one occasion, invited me to join her as a research collaborator, and was always willing to offer clear-eyed, sensible advice. Many of her CSU colleagues would recognize Connie's spirit in her steadfast advocacy for animals and the local Humane Society; her joyful participation in events as a Charter Member of the Rock-and-Roll Hall of Fame and Museum; and in her informal office bull sessions that would extend well into the late evening hours.

Professor Hollinger is survived by her dear friend Joyce Kren of Ashtabula, her cousins in Pennsylvania and Arkansas, and her mentor, Elise Fleming. At her request, no services were held.

☞ Submitted by Associate Dean Dr. Kathy McNamara