

Resolution on the Retirement of

Madeline Harrison Caviness

Adopted by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences

The faculty of the Department of Art and Art History join the Faculty of Arts and Sciences to put on record our admiration and affection for our retiring colleague, Madeline Harrison Caviness. Madeline did her undergraduate degree at Cambridge University in the U.K. Her first career choices were International Relations and Social Work. But after a year spent working at the British Council, Madeline was awarded a scholarship to the Sorbonne in Paris where she became an expert on medieval stained glass. She went on to complete her PhD at Harvard University in 1970.

Joining Tufts as an assistant professor in 1972, Madeline was by 1975 the first woman ever to be appointed as a department Chair on this campus, a position she held for ten years. She was promoted to Associate Professor in 1976, to Full Professor in 1981, and named the Mary Richardson Professor of Art History in 1987. Under her leadership as Chair new faculty were appointed in Asian, African and Contemporary art; the graduate program was strengthened; and joint degree programs were created between Tufts and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts. In addition, Madeline played a major role in developing the Women's Studies Program, infusing it with vitality and keeping it answerable to the highest standards in teaching and scholarship.

Madeline's impact on the field of Medieval Art History is evident through her many publications. Two of her nine books have been awarded prizes from the Medieval Academy of America and she has over fifty articles in peer-reviewed journals,

anthologies and festschriften. In addition to her scholarly accomplishments, Madeline was and continues to be an active member of her professional community. She served as president of the *Corpus Vitrearum* from 1987 to 1995, coinciding with terms as president of the International Center for Medieval Art and the Medieval Academy. At the same time, she has served in a variety of capacities in the ACLS, with UNESCO, and she is currently Honorary President of the Union Académique Internationale. This year she has been invited to join the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Madeline not only influenced generations of students here at Tufts, but she also served as a visiting professor at Williams College and New York University, as well as offering NEH summer seminars at Mount Holyoke. In addition to the dozens of Master's students Madeline has supervised at Tufts, she has been involved in dissertation projects at Boston University, Brown University, Cambridge University, Columbia University, and the Johannes-Gutenberg University in Mainz, Germany. In 2005, Caviness won the Tufts University Award for Distinguished Research, the Seymour O. Simches Award for Distinguished Teaching and Advising and she was recognized by the American Association of University Women with the Distinguished Senior Scholar Award. Her former students and colleagues have just completed a festschrift in her honor, entitled *The Four Modes of Seeing: Approaches to Medieval Art in Honor of Madeline Harrison Caviness*, Ashgate Press, forthcoming 2007.

We thank Madeline for her many years of dedicated teaching, for her high standards as a scholar, and for her iconoclastic sense of humor. We are glad to have this opportunity to express our esteem and to wish her continued health and happiness in the future with her husband Verne, their children and grandchildren.

On behalf of the committee, I move that this resolution on the retirement of Madeline Harrison Caviness be spread on the permanent record of this faculty and that a copy of it be sent to Madeline.