

## GEORGIANNA CONROW

1878 - 1954

Associate Professor Emeritus Georgianna Conrow was born on January 26, 1878 in Moorestown, New Jersey and died in Poughkeepsie on November 19, 1954. She received the A.B. and M.A. degrees from Cornell University, and subsequently continued her studies at Columbia and Cornell, and in Switzerland and France. In 1923 she was awarded the Diplôme de l'Ecole des Professeurs de français à l'étranger from the University of Paris.

She came to Vassar College in 1905, after teaching in high schools in New York State and New Jersey, and retired in 1946. During her many years of service in the French Department Miss Conrow taught students at all levels of their progress - from the beginners, to whom she gave particular care and encouragement, up to the class in Molière, a subject which was especially congenial to her lively sense of humor. She made an invaluable contribution to the smooth functioning of the department. Faithful in all things, she never considered any task too small to receive scrupulous attention. In discussion of policy matters one could depend on her for a word of good counsel, given at the right time, and founded on experience and wise judgment.

In 1925 Miss Conrow was elected Secretary of the Faculty, and held this important post until her retirement in 1946. For the period 1937 to 1947, including one year after she had withdrawn from teaching, she was also Secretary of the Board of Trustees - the first member of the faculty to serve in this capacity. The value of her service to both faculty and trustees is well expressed in the resolution adopted by the trustees in May 1947, which we quote in part:

"...To convey the meaning of the Board's deliberations and actions in brief and effective minutes is a difficult art. Miss Conrow is a master craftsman in this art. Her work...has not only constituted a fine permanent record for the college but has been of constant help to all members of the Board... in clarifying their thought for further action. Her devotion and wisdom in this work and her loyalty and friendship in performing it... cannot be measured."

GEORGIANNA CONROW (Continued)

Miss Conrow's interest in the total college community was friendly and warm. But it extended beyond the campus; to civic work also she gave generously of her time and her abilities. Among the important offices

she held in Poughkeepsie were: Director of the Vassar Hospital Association and President of the Board of Directors in 1939-1940; 2nd Vice-President of the Community Chest; 2nd Vice-President of the Poughkeepsie Garden Club; member of the Scholarship Fund Committee of the Poughkeepsie Branch of the American Association of University Women, and general Chairman of the v regional A.A.U.W; convention held at Vassar College in 1948. She was also actively interested in the Women's Republican Club of Dutchess County, and several County welfare associations.

The great amount of work Miss Comrcw accomplished, and her many and varied interests reflect her character. With her untiring energy she carried through to completion a task however small or large. She will be greatly missed not only at Vassar College but in the wider city and county community. Her zest for living and interest in people of all ages and walks of life will be a lasting memory to all who knew her.

Mary Landon Sague

Vera Thomson

Margaret de Schweinitz

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