

## **Memorial Resolution for Dr. Janice M. Lauer, Reece McGee Distinguished Professor Emerita**



Janice M. Lauer, Reece McGee Distinguished Professor Emerita, died on April 7, 2021. Professor Lauer founded Purdue's internationally respected graduate program in Rhetoric and Composition, one of the first in the United States, in 1980. She built and directed that program for 23 years, and at the time of her retirement in 2003, the program had over 200 doctoral graduates, over 1/4 of whose dissertations she had directed. She received numerous awards and recognitions, including the Conference on College Composition and Communication's Exemplar Award, the Rhetoric Society of America's Distinguished Service Award, the College of Liberal Arts' Excellence in Education Award, the Hopwood Award from the University of Michigan, and an honorary doctorate from St. Edwards University in Austin, Texas.

Professor Lauer's scholarship influenced the development of the field of Rhetoric and Composition for over 40 years. Her work on invention and heuristics, on disciplinarity, and on empirical research methods in composition are foundational. She mentored students and colleagues with rigor, respect, and love. She will be deeply missed by all, but her impact on Purdue, the academy, and the larger community will continue to be felt for many decades to come.