

A RESOLUTION HONORING DR. BERTINA HILDRETH COMBES, VICE PROVOST FOR FACULTY SUCCESS, RESPECTED COLLEAGUE, TRAIL BLAZER, BELOVED FRIEND, AND AN OUTSTANDING LEADER TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS COMMUNITY

Whereas, throughout her career Dr. Bertina Hildreth Combes worked tirelessly to promote the spirit and values of the University of North Texas:

As she served dutifully for over 30 years in the Department of Educational Psychology in the College of Education as active faculty member and mentor to students and faculty.

As over the years she served on and chaired numerous departments, college, and university committees.

As she chaired 25 doctoral committees and served as committee member on nearly 100 doctoral committees.

As she worked with colleagues to obtain from the University of North Texas numerous internal mentoring grants, including the *Black Women's Initiative* later to become the *Black Faculty Network*.

As she served as Associate Dean for Educator Preparation & Academic Affairs, and Associate Dean, Academic Affairs for the College of Education.

As she served as Coordinator/Facilitator for Programs in Special Education of the College of Education.

As she served as Associate Dean for Graduate Studies & Research of the College of Education.

As she served as Interim Dean of the College of Education.

As she served as Vice Provost for Faculty Success of the University of North Texas.

As she championed the advancement of learning by actively leading and participating in the recruitment and retention of students and faculty.

As she assisted in the increase of enrollment at the University of North Texas generally, and impacted the lives and education of many students and faculty of color.

Whereas, Dr. Bertina Hildreth Combes worked tirelessly to promote and advance research and scholarship in the discipline of education and in her chosen research area of special education at the regional and national levels which is long-lasting and wide-spread:

As she published over 40 peer-reviewed book chapters and articles that have over 600 citations.

As she presented her research at over 70 conferences, colloquia, and special meetings in the United States and internationally.

As she worked as principal investigator and with colleagues to receive a \$1.2 million external grant for *Project TELL*, which is recognized for its significant and sustained impact on the professional lives and development of community educators of special education students and upon leaders within the profession.

As she worked with colleagues to receive five additional external grants, including \$1.2 million for *Project STArT: Systematic Training for Autism Teachers: Training Effective Leaders through Local Partnership*, \$800,000 for *Project DART: Distributed Education for Autism Personnel in Rural Texas Personnel Preparation*, and \$800,000 for *Project STARS: Systematic Training for Autism Researchers and School Personnel*.

As she served as journal editor of *Intervention in Schools and Clinics* and *Learning Disabilities Quarterly*, and served as reviewer of several other academic journals, board member, and reviewer of grants.

Whereas, Dr. Bertina Hildreth Combes in her position as Vice Provost for the Office of Faculty Success for the University of North Texas served with distinction and generously gave her time and energy for the advancement and success of faculty:

As she undertook the creative responsibility for the University of North Texas Faculty Senate's Resolution for Mandatory Diversity Training.

Whereas, her sense of humor, kindness, energy, and graciousness enriched those fortunate enough to have known and worked with her.

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the University of North Texas Faculty Senate

Recognizes Dr. Bertina Hildreth Combes' achievements and her contributions to the world of higher education and specifically to UNT and its members; and

Expresses its deep and sincere appreciation and gratitude for Dr. Bertina Hildreth Combes' contributions in remembrance of her life, well lived.

Be It Finally Resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Dr. Bertina Hildreth Combes and become a permanent part of the record of the Faculty Senate of the University of North Texas

Approved by the Faculty Senate March 10, 2021