

Faculty Senate Resolution 2004-05-04
EMERITUS STATUS FOR PROF. LEA B. PELLET

WHEREAS the Department of Sociology and Anthropology unanimously nominates Professor Lea B. Pellet for Emeritus status, and

WHEREAS this honor is justified by a long list of distinguished accomplishments over a very productive career, including:

In curriculum development: As the 3rd member hired for the Department of Sociology, Professor Pellett has had the opportunity to develop both courses and programs.

- She helped create, shape, and, on numerous occasions, revise and improve the major in sociology.
- She was instrumental in creating the social work program and taught several courses in this program for many years
- She created the Anthropology minor virtually single-handedly
- She is primarily responsible for the Culture and Socialization Concentration within the sociology major
- She created and taught many courses in the sociology, social work, and anthropology programs including SOCL 314 (Sociology of Education), SOCL/ANTH 377 (Women, Gender, and Culture), SOCL/ANTH 361 (Culture and Human Population), and SOCL/ANTH 394 Quantitative Methods

In teaching: Professor Pellett has been an excellent classroom teacher. She has taught courses at every level of the curriculum in formats ranging from small seminars to large lectures. She has touched the lives of hundreds (if not thousands) of students during her career and left an indelible mark on many. One measure of her impact is that she was frequently remembered – with great fondness and respect – in the alumni survey we conducted this fall.

In service to the department: Her contributions to the department are innumerable. She has always taken an active, leadership role and served several terms as chairman. She has done more than her share of departmental work including serving on peer groups, helping to design the curriculum, recruiting and advising new faculty members, advising students, supervising the secretarial and support staff, and in other ways far too numerous to mention. She is a highly respected, deeply involved, and thoroughly committed professional. She has consistently and strongly spoken for higher standards – for faculty as well as students. The department is far stronger – on every possible level – because of her contributions over the years.

In service to the university: Professor Pellett has been deeply involved in virtually every phase of the life of the university. She has given unselfishly of her time and wisdom to

numerous committees and task forces, including a presidential search committee and the curriculum committee.

In service to the larger community: Professor Pellett's lengthy list of service includes leadership roles in organizations at the local, state, and national levels.

- The President's Commission on Mental Health (under President Carter)
- The local Head Start program
- The local LINK program to aid the homeless
- The United Nations Association

In professional service and international programs: Professor Pellett has been a leader in developing and implementing international educational and service programs. These programs include:

- A program studying and providing services for migrant laborers from Mexico and Central American working in Virginia.
- A variety of educational trips to Mexico and Guatemala. Almost 300 students have participated in these programs. These trips have focused on a variety of topics including comparative health and educational systems, international labor flows, and sustainable development.
- A community development program in a Masai village in Kenya. She has involved several faculty members from CNU and other campuses, a variety of professionals from the community, and almost 20 students in this program. She also created and supervises the Masai-American Organization to coordinate activities and funnel aid to Kenya.
- She has produced several video documentaries focused on these programs. Specific topics include bicultural education (Guatemala) and African education (Kenya), and

WHEREAS Professor Pellett's career has been remarkably productive, rich, and varied, and

WHEREAS she has taught with distinction, has been instrumental in building and managing an academic department, has served the university and the community tirelessly, and is a leader in international and experiential education,

THEREFORE, the Faculty Senate of Christopher Newport University recommends that Professor Lea B. Pellet be granted emeritus status.