

## **Elizabeth A. Olson, Ph.D.**

### Biographical Sketch

Elizabeth A. Olson, Ph.D., was Associate Director for Education at the Institute of Gerontology at Wayne State University until her death on April 6, 1998. Dr. Olson was a member of the WSU Graduate Faculty and an Adjunct Assistant Professor in Sociology, Community Medicine, and Occupational Therapy. Dr. Olson received her B.A. from Hamline University, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Human Ecology from Michigan State University. Dr. Olson published and presented in the field of gerontology education.

### Publications (1994 - 1998)

- Olson, E.** (1996). Evidence-Based Practice: A New Approach to Teaching the Integration of Research and Practice. *Educational Gerontology*, 22, 523-537.
- Keller, R. and **Olson, E.** (1995). Caring for Older Patients: Meeting the Challenges. *Radiation Therapist: Journal of the Radiation Oncology Sciences*, 5, 1, 24-28.
- Olson, E.** (1994). Methodological Issues in Evaluation of a Faculty Development in Gerontology Program. *Educational Gerontology*, 20, 379-394.
- Olson, E.** (1994). A Model for Working with Cosponsors to Develop Multidisciplinary Continuing Education Programs in the Field of Aging. *Gerontology and Geriatrics Education*, 14, 77-87.

### Grants

\$41,100 in grants for the annual Continuing Education Program on Issues in Aging. *Coinvestigator*. Great Lakes Geriatric Interdisciplinary Team Training Grant. John F. Hartford Foundation, Hartford, CT  
*Principal Investigators* at Henry Ford Health Care System and Case Western Reserve University. 1996-1999

### Program Development (1988 - 1998)

*Graduate Certificate in Gerontology Program*. The Certificate Program has been in existence since 1975. It was officially approved by the Wayne State University Board of Governors in 1988. Enrollment has increased since Dr. Olson came to the Institute in 1987 from 34 students to about 140 in 1997. The program meets the guidelines proposed for such programs by the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education. Joint programs have been developed formally with other departments on campus in which a student can earn a master's degree and meet the requirements of the Certificate Program.

- *Joint program development in parks and recreation services and aging*. The Master of Science in Parks and Recreation Services with the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology. Department of Parks and Recreation.
- *Joint program development in health and aging*. The Master of Science in Community Health Services with the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology. Department of Community Medicine.

- *Joint program development in occupational therapy and aging.* The Master of Science in Occupational Therapy with the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology. Department of Occupational Therapy.
- *Joint program development in interdisciplinary studies.* The Master of Interdisciplinary Studies with either a Graduate Certificate in Gerontology or a gerontology concentration. College of Life Long Learning.
- *Concentration on Aging.* Department of Sociology, College of Liberal Arts. Committee Member.
- *Specialization in Aging.* Master's Degree in Conflict Resolution, College of Urban, Labor, and Metropolitan Affairs.
- *Minor in Aging.* Students can obtain a minor in gerontology at the doctoral level.

*Annual Continuing Education Program on Issues in Aging* (since 1988). The Continuing Education Program is a regional three-day continuing education program for professionals working with aging populations; annual faculty of approximately 20 nationally-recognized experts; designed with the assistance of invited cosponsors representing such entities as university departments and state organizations which assist in selecting topics and experts. 3000 professionals trained.

*Annual Continuing Education Program on Aging* cosponsored with the Office of Continuing Education and Sponsored Programs, Northern Michigan University, Marquette, MI (since 1995). Program planned for Upper Peninsula Aging Health and Human Service Providers.

*Annual Long Term Care Continuing Education Program on Issues in Aging.* Program planned for health and human service providers working in long term care settings (since 1996).

*Annual Advancing Nursing Continuing Education in Gerontology Program.* Program planned for providers of nursing care for the elderly and their families.

### Professional Service

- Associate Editor. *AGHExchange*, New Member Profiles. Quarterly column published in the Newsletter of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education. (1991-1998)
- Publications Committee, Association for Gerontology in Higher Education. (1991-1998)
- Detroit City Council. Member Task Force on Senior Citizen Issues. (1994-1998)
- Detroit Medical Center Gerontology/Resource Coordination Task Force. (1992-1998)
- Area Agency on Aging 1-B Advisory Council. (1989-1998)
- Editorial Board, *Michigan Family Review*. (1994-1998)