October 1997

Life membership awarded to Cook

Academy of Accounting Historians

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With the deepest sense of gratitude, the Academy of Accounting Historians awards life membership to Dr. Doris M. Cook, president of the Academy, 1996. Doris has served the Academy and contributed to accounting history in many ways. She led the Academy during 1996 in the celebration of the Certified Public Accountant Examination’s centennial year. She has extensively published and encouraged research in accounting history.

Doris retired from the University of Arkansas in June, 1997, after 50 years of meritorious service. The faculty and students will miss their famous “woman in red.” She is recognized for her deep concern for students. In April, the Department of Accounting’s annual Accounting Recognition Day Banquet celebrated Doris’ 50th anniversary, and Arkansas Senator David Malone presented her with a Senate Resolution honoring her extraordinary service to the University.

Doris completed her BSBA in accounting in 1946 and began to teach at Arkansas in 1947 while working on her Master’s degree. She received the Ph.D from the University of Texas, Austin in 1968. Doris was promoted to professor in 1969, becoming the first woman to achieve such rank in the Department of Accounting; the beginning of many firsts.

Doris was the first woman CPA in Arkansas, the first woman member of the Arkansas Society of CPAs, the first woman to serve on the National Council of Beta Alpha Psi, the first woman to serve as national president of Beta Alpha Psi, the first woman at the University of Arkansas to hold an endowed lectureship or chair, the first woman and person in the Department of Accounting to hold the rank of University Professor, first recipient of the Baum Faculty Teaching Award for Teaching Excellence, and the first woman named Distinguished Professor Emerita. She served on the Arkansas State Board of Public Accountancy, was an active member of the Arkansas Society of CPAs, and has received numerous teaching and service awards during her career. As a legacy, contributions are being sought to establish and endow a Doris M. Cook Lectureship at the University of Arkansas.

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