



EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

September 7, 2011

Dear Colleagues,

When Dr. Lyla Spelbring passed away January 20, 2011, we lost an exceptional leader in the Occupational Therapy profession. While we are deeply saddened by her loss, Eastern Michigan University is honoring her memory with the establishment of the Lyla M. Spelbring Endowed Lectureship in Occupational Therapy. Until her passing, she enthusiastically worked as a member of the committee on all aspects of the project. Lyla took charge of her life and situation to the end.

Planning Committee:

*Reggie Campbell, MS,
OTR, FAOTA*

Rae Anne Cinder, MA

*Betsy Francis-
Connolly, Ph.D., OTRL,
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*Carole Hays, MA, OTR
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*Valerie Howells, Ph.D.,
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*Leslie Kamil, OTRL,
MS, JD*

*Amy Lamb, OTD,
OTRL*

Dr. Lyla M. Spelbring's legacy is that of a visionary leader who inspired generations of practitioners, educators and scholars through her dedication and commitment to the profession of Occupational Therapy. Her work embodied the ideals of servant leadership, advocating for others and seeking to advance the interests of her colleagues and her profession. She demonstrated excellence in practice, scholarship, and service. Lyla's leadership, in all aspects of her life, has influenced countless individuals to strive for excellence. Her loyalty and devotion to her country, profession, communities, friends and family was evidenced in her tireless and enthusiastic engagement in life.

The Lyla M. Spelbring Endowed Lectureship in Occupational Therapy will be awarded annually to an individual who exemplifies the exceptional qualities of dedicated leadership, scholarship, and service and whose work results in stronger, more vibrant communities as demonstrated by Lyla's remarkable legacy. This year the inaugural Lyla M. Spelbring Endowed Lecture will be held on September 24, 2011 in conjunction with the Occupational Therapy Program's 70th Anniversary celebration. We are pleased to announce that Dr. Carolyn Baum has accepted our invitation to give the inaugural lecture.

The Committee is deeply committed to honoring Lyla and sustaining her legacy of leadership for years to come. While we wish that Lyla was here to see the lectureship become a reality, her wishes continue to guide us and the process. With your support, and the support of others whose lives were enriched by Lyla's servant leadership, we will be able to announce the lecture as fully endowed at \$25,000.00 by September. Should you have any questions regarding supporting the Endowed Lectureship please feel free to contact Rae Anne Cinder at rcinder@emich.edu or 734-487-8040.

Sincerely,

Valerie Howells
Program Director