A RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF KARIN DURÁN

As we continue to say goodbye to Dr. Karin Durán, Librarian of the Oviatt Library at California State University, Northridge, we pause in remembrance on this day, September 23, 2010, to submit a resolution to the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Karin Durán received her Bachelor’s of Arts degree, in Spanish, from California State University, Northridge, in 1970. In 1986, she earned her Ph.D., in Library Science, from the University of Southern California.

Dr. Karin Durán began her career as a Librarian at the Oviatt Library in 1972. During her 38 years, she served in many positions but her consistent focus was on students, reference services and instruction. Also of great importance to her was her responsibility for the development and curation of the collections related to Chicana/o Studies, Central American Studies and Spanish language and literature. Dr. Durán also greatly enjoyed her responsibility for overseeing the Teacher Curriculum Center—a service to which she was devoted. In 2005, Dr. Durán kindly acted as the Interim Associate Dean and as Acting Department Chair during a temporary period while the Oviatt Library recovered from damages resulting from the 1994 earthquake. She loved her various responsibilities and this showed in the high quality of her work.

Since 1977, Karin also served as an instructor with Chicana/o Studies and was very engaged in the life of the department. She was devoted to the many students who enrolled in her research course and across this campus.

As a senior member of the faculty of the Library, Karin also served on many personnel committees — a duty she carried out with thoughtful consideration. She was also called upon to serve on personnel committees in other departments. She was an excellent advisor on personnel matters. Dr. Karin Durán was awarded an “Outstanding Achievement Award” by the La Raza Alumni Association and also a “Service to Society Recognition” from California State University, Northridge, Alumni Association.

Dr. Karin Durán was an active University citizen serving on a variety of committees and initiatives including the Honors Convocation, University 100, the Teacher Education Council, the Education Doctorate Advisory Board and as an advisor to the Gamma Alpha Omega Sorority, to name a few. Karin was recently inducted into Phi Beta Delta Omega for international scholars. Karin was recognized by the Faculty Senate for her exceptional service when she was awarded the “Extraordinary Service Award” in 2006.

Dr. Karin Durán was also very active professionally especially through REFORMA (the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-Speaking) and CARL (the California Academic & Research Libraries Association). Karin also continued to publish, present and share her extensive knowledge and experience with her colleagues. Many were proud to call her their mentor.

Dr. Karin Durán was very active within the community through a variety of organizations including Comisión Femenil de San Fernando Valley. For her service to the many organizations, she was commended by various elected officials.

With Karin’s passing, we will miss her energy, smile, calmness and steadfast collegiality.

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved: That the Senate of California State University, Northridge, acknowledge and honor the outstanding contributions made to our institution by Dr. Karin Durán as instructor, scholar, librarian and friend, and be it further

Resolved: That these comments become a permanent part of the annals of this Senate and that copies of this resolution are sent to her husband, Rick Nupoll, to be shared with Karin’s extended family.