

Shirley Trembley

Bakersfield College, 1956-1990

Math teacher

The accomplishments of the late Shirley Trembley are legendary among the campus community at Bakersfield College. "Shirley Trembley epitomized teaching excellence," said Dr. Robert Allison, former Dean of Instruction for BC. "Those of us who knew her had the privilege of observing a level of dedication to her students and to her discipline that can serve as a model for all teachers."

The contributions of Trembley, who taught mathematics at the college from 1956 until her death in 1990, are being recognized with an annual award in her name, funded by an endowment from her estate.

The **Shirley Trembley Distinguished Teaching Award** will be given to a faculty member who best exemplifies outstanding teaching and service to discipline. Selection will be by faculty and administrators.

During her years at BC, Trembley stood as a monument to innovation and leadership.

In the classroom she was constantly devising inventive new ways to explain difficult concepts. In some instances, she even created her own two-and three- dimensional demonstration models.

Students crowded into her classes, and most stayed there all semester. Her retention rate was at the 80% mark in every semester.

Somehow, she managed to help them all, extending her office hours to accommodate their needs, giving her time and energy unselfishly so they could succeed.

Through the years, Trembley emerged as a leader in mathematics education. Locally, she was recognized throughout various school systems as the expert consultant on mathematics curriculum and teaching practices. She was widely admired for her knowledge and willingness to be of service.

Her presentations and service in her discipline had a significant influence, at all levels of education, on the teaching of mathematics throughout the state and nation.

As an educator, she received numerous awards. The greatest of her rewards and her inspiration, however, came from the accomplishments of her students.