

December 2002

A Tribute to Grace "Betty" W. Taylor

Arthur Donnelly

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarship.law.ufl.edu/jtlp>

Recommended Citation

Donnelly, Arthur (2002) "A Tribute to Grace "Betty" W. Taylor," *Journal of Technology Law & Policy*. Vol. 7: Iss. 2, Article 2.

Available at: <https://scholarship.law.ufl.edu/jtlp/vol7/iss2/2>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by UF Law Scholarship Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in *Journal of Technology Law & Policy* by an authorized editor of UF Law Scholarship Repository. For more information, please contact kaleita@law.ufl.edu.

Arthur "Rick" Donnelly*

It is doubtful that anyone enters the work force today with the idea that they are about to dedicate over five decades of service to a profession. It is less likely that they should spend over fifty years at the same institution. Meet Grace Elizabeth (Betty) Taylor: Law librarian, academic administrator, law professor, holder of endowed academic chair, writer, speaker, consultant, mother, grandmother, distinguished graduate of Florida State University, the University of Florida, member of Phi Beta Kappa, member of Florida Blue Key, and avid University of Florida and Florida Gators booster. Following her birth in New Jersey, Betty moved to Kissimmee where, as she often says, she "got that Florida sand in my shoes." The advantage has been all Florida's and her fifty-three years with the University of Florida have been a study in loyal service to a school she loves.

Betty Taylor's futuristic foresight and intellectual curiosity put the Levin College of Law at the forefront of legal education's first experiments with information technology. Under Taylor's creation and leadership of the College of Law's Legal Information Center, the College was the first law school in the United States to have both Lexis and Westlaw on the same campus, she procured the first computers for the College of Law through a joint-venture she hammered out with IBM, she created the first computer labs for student use, and most recently led the cause to install a wireless internet "bubble" over the College so that laptops can access the web from anywhere on the College of Law campus, inside and outside. An ironic twist to Taylor's avid interest in all things futuristic is her latest interest in writing the College of Law's first complete history. The history research has begun and, as with all other Taylor projects, she approaches the task with enthusiasm and tireless interest. Upon her retirement in June 2003, the Levin College of Law, the University of Florida, and the State will miss her leadership but her legacy of unselfish service is an example that should inspire those who follow for years to come.

* Associate Librarian & Associate Director, Legal Information Center.