

# INVITATION

You and your fellow alumni are invited to help the University honor selfless, deserving individuals while they still live. A few minutes of your time will render a valuable service.

**G**EORGE F. SHORT, member of the University Regents, said it in 1954: The Oklahoma Memorial Union Building is a memorial to former University students who served their state and country in time of war. Campus dormitories are named for students who lost their lives in service of the nation. "Little enough recognition at best," said Short.

But, he continued, the University, the Regents and the Alumni Association were impressed with the fact that the state was blessed with the living presence of men and women of achievement; their services to the state and nation should be acclaimed while they yet lived.

Short was speaking at the University's seventh—and last—Achievement Day program. On that April evening the University's Distinguished Service Citation system honored five persons—bringing the number of DSC winners to a total of 34—and then was no more. After President George Cross presented the citations, the system quietly faded away.

Today, with the passage of four years, the system has been reactivated, and all University of Oklahoma alumni are invited to help keep it alive by submitting nominations for the awards. How do you go about it? A list of past winners and an explanation of eligibility rules will perhaps make the process more clear.

Winners of citations in 1948 were Everette Lee DeGolyer, oil man and publisher; A. S. "Mike" Monroney, U. S. senator; Lynn Riggs, playwright; Raymond Stallings McLain, Army general, and William Shaffer Key, oil man.

Winners of citations in 1949 were Forrest Pitt Baker, doctor and superintendent of a tuberculosis sanitarium; Benjamin Gilbert Owen, O. U.'s grand old man of football; Frank Phillips, oil man; Lew Haines Wentz, philanthropist, and Muriel H. Wright, author.

Winners of citations in 1950 were John R. Abernathy, Methodist minister; O. H. P. Brewer, judge and educator; David Wilson Griffin, doctor; Lloyd Noble, oil man, and Alice L. Marriott, author.

Winners of citations in 1951 were Norman W. Brillhart, geologist and oil man; Lloyd J. Hibbard, engineer and inventor; Hal L. Muldrow, Jr., lawyer; Jay G. Puterbaugh, banker, industrialist and oil man, and Edgar S. Vaught, U. S. judge.

Winners of citations in 1952 were Lulu B. Beckington, teacher; John F. Easley, journalist; George C. McGhee, U. S. ambassador; William E. Baker, archaeologist and soil conservationist, and E. E. Dale, teacher and author.

Winners of citations in 1953 were William S. Hamilton, attorney; Dr. Isaac N. McCash, president emeritus of Phillips University; Ward S. Merrick, oil man, and Dr. M. L. Wardell, teacher and author.

Winners of citations in 1954 were Fred S. Borum, Air Force general; Dr. Roy Temple House, teacher and founder of the international quarterly, *Books Abroad*; Alfred Paul Murrah, federal judge; William

Grove Skelly, oil man, and Edyth Thomas Wallace, teacher and author.

A secret committee makes the final selections from nominations submitted. Composed of six members serving three-year terms, the committee is the result of an effort made by appointing authorities to see that each member represents a different vocation or classification. Three of the members are chosen by the University's president, and three are chosen by the president of the Alumni Association.

To be nominated, a person must be living and a graduate or former student of the University, or a resident or former resident of Oklahoma. Non-residents of the state who have never lived in Oklahoma may be selected only by unanimous consent of the committee.

Not more than five honorees may be selected to receive Distinguished Service Citations in any one year, and fewer may be chosen at the discretion of the committee. Nominations should be submitted to the Executive Secretary of the Alumni Association, or to the Secretary of the University, and such nominations will be forwarded to the committee.

Factors considered by the selection committee include good citizenship and distinguished service to the community, state or nation; humanitarian, cultural, intellectual or scientific contributions to society, rather than material success standing alone; pioneering in new fields, thereby advancing ideas and opportunities for development, and distinguished service and achievement which enhances the nominee's chosen profession.

Characteristics sought should have been demonstrated over a period of years.

Certificates of the Distinguished Service Citation are issued in the name of the University and the Alumni Association, under the seals of both sponsors. Whereas presentations were formerly made in April at individual Achievement Day programs, they now will be awarded at spring Commencement exercises, and names of recipients will be listed in the Commencement program.

In order to be successful, the Distinguished Service Citation must depend upon the cooperation of many. Honor is a trait often found in the individual, but the act of honoring selfless individuals belongs to the multitude and is practically impossible without mass participation.

You are urged to notify either the Executive Secretary of the Alumni Association or the Secretary of the University of your candidate for the DSC award and of his qualifications. You will, in doing so, perform an important service.