

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 82

BY SENATORS PETERSON, BROOME, BUFFINGTON AND DORSEY-COLOMB
AND REPRESENTATIVES BARROW, CHAMPAGNE, HILL,
HODGES, KATRINA JACKSON, NANCY LANDRY, MORENO,
NORTON, SMITH, ST. GERMAIN, THIERRY AND WHITNEY

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Dr. Annette Oertling of New Orleans upon her receipt of a 2012 Women of Excellence Award from the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to commend Dr. Annette Oertling upon her receipt of a 2012 Women of Excellence Award from the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation and to recognize her vital contributions to the citizens of Louisiana as an active and dedicated community servant; and

WHEREAS, Annette Oertling obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Tulane University in May 1978 and subsequently worked eight years for Exxon Company, U.S.A. in the production department, obtaining her professional engineering (Louisiana) license in Mechanical Engineering in 1983; she returned to Tulane and received a Masters of Art in Teaching with a specialty in Math in August, 1988, and taught math and science at Louise McGehee High School for two years; and received a Master of Science degree in December 1993 and a PhD in May 2001, both in Mechanical Engineering from Tulane; and

WHEREAS, Annette Oertling, PhD, is a Professor of Practice in the Tulane University Biomedical Engineering Department and serves as the first Assistant Dean for K-12 outreach for the School of Science and Engineering and, in the latter capacity, she coordinates the Tulane Science Scholars Program for high school students who have interest and talent in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Oertling also is the fair director for the Greater New Orleans Science and Engineering Fair, serving grades 6-12 in Orleans, Jefferson, Plaquemines, and

St. Bernard parishes; is the president and a founding member of Building Louisiana Science and Technology, Inc. (BLaST), a non-profit organization responsible for bringing FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) programs to Louisiana, directly impacting over five thousand middle and high school students in Louisiana since 2003 through the FIRST Lego League (FLL) robotics program and the FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) program; is the FLL Partner for Louisiana and serves as the Volunteer Coordinator for both the FLL and FRC; serves on the board of Core Element, a regional collaborative between K-12, higher education, economic development, and business and industry institutions that are committed to improving the caliber of math and science education in our schools; and has facilitated STEM events on Tulane's campus such as the IEEE Teacher In-Service Program and the Sally Ride Science Festival; and

WHEREAS, as a graduate student, she taught various engineering courses and for four years coordinated the summer program for Environmental Engineering and Science, a one week camp for middle school students; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Oertling now teaches Biomedical Engineering and Engineering Physics students, incorporating service learning options that allow students to apply course content to the mentoring of 6th-12th grade students in local schools; since 2007, has supervised 120 Tulane students in 15 schools, mentoring middle and high school robotics teams and science fair projects; mentors senior Biomedical Engineering design teams and serves on various university committees including the Undergraduate Core Curriculum Committee, the Tulane Engineering Forum Committee, the Honor Board, and the Advisory Council for the Teacher Certification Program at Tulane; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Oertling has also mentored the middle school robotics team in her neighborhood since 2005 and has taught summer seminars in 2010 and 2011 introducing middle school teachers to robotics; and

WHEREAS, during Dr. Oertling's tenure in industry from 1978-1986, she was in the founding membership of the Greater New Orleans section of the Society of Women Engineers (GNO SWE), serving in a variety of positions including two terms as president, and one term as section representative to National; was instrumental in creating the original GNO SWE "Day in the Life of an Engineer" for high school students and the "Speakers

Bureau", addressing thousands of students during her eight years in industry; is now the SWE student section advisor at Tulane University; and while in industry, also served in various positions in the New Orleans section of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and more recently served as the Tulane student section advisor from 2004-2007; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation created the Women of Excellence Awards to recognize and honor extraordinary women of excellence across the state for their outstanding achievements and contributions; and

WHEREAS, recipients of the Women of Excellence Awards exhibit characteristics of integrity and professionalism, personify excellence in their area of specialty, and are committed to community service to better society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, this year, there were seven categories for the Women of Excellence Awards: Business, College Woman of Excellence, Education & Research, Government & Law, High School Woman of Excellence, Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics, and Volunteerism and Civic Involvement; and

WHEREAS, the recipients of the 2012 Women of Excellence Awards are being recognized at the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation's Women of Excellence Awards Gala on Wednesday, May 9, 2012, in Baton Rouge; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Oertling received a 2012 Women of Excellence Award in the category of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics for her highly productive community activism and service; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Oertling merits a sincere and heartfelt measure of commendation for her dedication to excellence and her outstanding accomplishments.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Dr. Annette Oertling of New Orleans upon her receipt of a 2012 Women of Excellence Award from the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation, does hereby recognize and record for posterity her singular contributions to the citizens of Louisiana as an active and dedicated community servant, and does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the tremendous honor and pride that she brings to her family and friends, the city of New Orleans, and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr. Oertling.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES