

1973

Tribute to Milbert Krohn

Gary E. Downs

Donald E. Murphy

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/istj>



Part of the Science and Mathematics Education Commons

Let us know how access to this document benefits you

Copyright © Copyright 1973 by the Iowa Academy of Science

Recommended Citation

Downs, Gary E. and Murphy, Donald E. (1973) "Tribute to Milbert Krohn," *Iowa Science Teachers Journal*: Vol. 10: No. 4, Article 21.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/istj/vol10/iss4/21>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the IAS Journals & Newsletters at UNI ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Iowa Science Teachers Journal by an authorized editor of UNI ScholarWorks. For more information, please contact scholarworks@uni.edu.

Offensive Materials Statement: Materials located in UNI ScholarWorks come from a broad range of sources and time periods. Some of these materials may contain offensive stereotypes, ideas, visuals, or language.

standards, or answers to the items, as well as the selection of the items in the first place are confounded by the subjective judgement of the evaluator. He selects what he thinks is important and what will estimate the student's "true knowledge." He then sets standards and answers according to his knowledge and experience. The objectivity of the "objective test" is based on the decision making process and is in the open for all to inspect.

Testing and evaluation serves an important function in that it promotes an open system for identifying important needs, locating talented persons, and distributing limited educational resources. The USA, for example, historically turned to testing and evaluation in order to identify needed talent for the manpower needs of a rapidly growing space technology. Developing countries rely on testing as their best hope to utilize their limited funds and resources most effectively. Thomas Jefferson himself pleaded for an aristocracy based upon individual merit rather than wealth or birth; testing intended to break these barriers of caste and class. However, current growing mistrust of testing and evaluation seems to question many of the reasons for implementing testing in the first place. In part, many people still view testing as it existed over 100 years ago, or as memories of the "weekly quizzes" they experienced in school. To be sure, testing has grown and developed far beyond these vantage points.

TRIBUTE TO MILBERT KROHN

It is our humble honor to prepare a tribute to Milbert Krohn. Milt was an excellent teacher, leader, and a very dear friend to many, many educators in Iowa and across the country. It would be a gross error on our part if we tried to list Milt's accomplishments because undoubtedly we would omit many endeavors he performed. Therefore, we will try to express our feelings for Milt by listing some of his characteristics and then concluding with an excerpt from a personal letter.

Some of Milt's Characteristics

His enthusiasm was addictive
 His never ending prodding concerning projects
 A major catalyst behind many Iowa projects
 Always answered a call for help--
 he would often drive 400 miles for a meeting
 Involvement in total community
 Love and understanding of young people
 Unlimited energies

Sincerity

Unceasing quest for improving science education
 Uniqueness (example--signature for letters:
 AZ-ever, Mil)

This list in no way constitutes the total Milt, but the few listed characteristics highlight our feelings for Milt.

Excerpt from a Personal Letter

Friend Gary:

I received a note from Dr. Hanson at UNI today. He confirmed Dr. Trowbridge at 4 P.M. Friday during the Iowa Academy.

I need a bit of boost on the calls for papers. Are you doing any there, or will you be busy??? I know you will and am not trying to be facetious. Will you drop a line to the science supervisors asking for abstracts for me. I don't have the listing else I would. I am going to ask Dr. Hanson to put something in his newsletter. Will you have one going out soon?

I was at Davenport last week for the ISEA meet. Were you with Murphy on the winter meet of ISTS? Help me if you can on the call for papers. They need to be abstracted before Mar. 1 to get into the program. Perhaps even before that. This darn typewriter has had it. Hope this finds you getting along o.k. Was my request in order for the funds? I didn't know exactly how to write it up.

Sincerely,

Mil

by Gary E. Downs and
 Donald E. Murphy

September 4, 1973

Milbert Krohn
 1927-1973

I heard of the plane crash on the 10 p.m. news. No names were given. Next morning after opening the morning paper, my wife said, "Guess who died in the plane wreck at Alta?" Who by stretching his imagination to the limit would have guessed it might be a guy like Mil?

Friday was the last day of summer term classes. Commencement was in the afternoon. And it wasn't until I got home that it really hit me. I collapsed into my reading chair and just sat there emotionally overcome and crying.