



Dr. Margaret ARCUS

receives the 2020 IFHE Distinguished Services Award

Dr. Margaret Edwards ARCUS (Canada) is the recipient of the IFHE Distinguished Service Award 2020. She received her degrees from the University of Nebraska Lincoln (BSc), Utah State University (MEd), and Iowa State University (PhD). She taught Home Economics and Family Studies at the secondary level in Nebraska and Arizona and at the university level at the University of Utah and Iowa State University before joining the faculty at the University of British Columbia (UBC) in 1968 where she taught and conducted research for 31 years.



She has an extensive record of scholarly publications and presentations in Home Economics and in Family Studies/Family Life Education and was instrumental in establishing the family studies programme at UBC. She received teaching awards from the University of British Columbia and the Ernest G. Osborne Teaching Award from the National Council on Family Relations, a USA-based organization of family scholars and practitioners.

Margaret is a long-time and committed member of IFHE and has served at all levels. She was a member of the IFHE Council representing British Columbia for many years and was Vice-President of the Region of the Americas 1992-1996. She was a founding member of the IFHE Research Committee, serving on this Committee for several Congresses, and she was Co-Chair of the 1992 IFHE Congress in Hanover, Germany. She was author of the IFHE history book, "100 Years of the International Federation for Home Economics 1908-2008." She was active in other Home Economics organizations including the British Columbia Home Economics Association and the Canadian Home Economics Association and was a member of the American Home Economics Association (now the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences).

Margaret was also an active member of the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR). She made many presentations at annual meetings, was a member of several committees, served twice on the NCFR Board of Directors, and was Vice-President Membership 1984-1986. She was a member of the Standards and Certification Committee that developed the NCFR Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) programme, including the "Life-span Framework for Family Life Education," a scholarly guide for teacher preparation and programme development. She was senior editor of the "Handbook of Family Life Education, Volumes I and II" (1993) that became a standard resource and textbook for current and future family life educators.

In 2003, in recognition of and to honour her many contributions to the field of family life education, NCFR established the "Margaret E. Arcus Outstanding Family Life Educator Award."