



BROMMEL-MENDELSON-HENNINGTON SCHOLARSHIP IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES/ UNIVERSITY WITHOUT WALLS

Carol Mendelson came to Northwestern University in 1995. Her son, Steve, had died of AIDS in February of 1995. She needed a vehicle to heal body and soul. The University Without Walls program provided that vehicle.

The University Without Walls program is a competency-based program where students can gain academic recognition for previously acquired college-equivalent knowledge and skills. Students work with faculty and advisors to address prior and proposed learning in three programmatic areas: depth, breadth and effective communication.

It was through the University Without Walls program that Mendelson met Professor Emeritus of the University of Illinois at Chicago, Dr. Brommel. I had the great good fortune to meet Dr. Brommel when he agreed to be my advisor.

Mendelson created an independent research project titled, "The Impact of HIV on the Family." As part of the project, she engaged in several activities outside of the classroom including:

- Joined the Chicago AIDS Coalition to lobby State Representative Ryan White for funding AIDS/HIV services in Lake County, Illinois and Chicago;
- Co-facilitated a peer-led support group for care givers, family and loved ones of HIV-impacted individuals;
- Facilitated the Family AIDS Support Grief Group for the loved ones after the death of an HIV-impacted individual;
- Recorded and transcribed oral histories of AIDS support groups and spoke before medical students as part of a panel of professionals, patients and social workers to help increase the sensitivity of medical professionals to HIV issues.

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Brommel wrote, "I was very nervous when I was asked to speak at a church AIDS service. I remembered the techniques of public speaking. Building on his training, I was later able to address a major AIDS conference at Northwestern University. As a hands-on volunteer, week after week, she would visit AIDS

patients and their parents or significant others. I observed her many times comfort and educate

A YbXY'gcb'UXXYXZĪ =Ua 'dfci X'cZħY'Xj YfglmcZħY'I bJj YfglhmK]ħci hK U'g'dfc[fUa 'UbX'ħe quality of NEIU professors as best exemplified by Dr. Brommel. To be named as a scholarship honoree, and thus part of enriching the future for others, is a singular honor - all the more so because the scholarship was created by Dr. Brommel, who is one of my 'ZYŋ[fYUŋi\YfcYg'i

After graduating from NEIU, Mendelson combined her background in art with a form of art therapy to work with the HIV community. She teamed up with local therapist Dan Anthon, and has worked as his assistant for the past 16 years.

Julianne Trubac Hennington, U'fYi fb]b['UXi 'hgi XYbhU'iB 9=]b'ħY'Uŋ% +\$ŋUWbck 'YX[Yg' she was at a crossroads in her life. Trubac, an elementary education major, also took a class in interpersonal communication, which was taught by Bernard J. Brommel, professor emeritus, communication, media and theatre. Her seemingly small choic'cZU'gYa YghfŋWŋg'WYXi 'Y'YbXYX' up being a life-changing one" 5g'U'gi XYbhicZ6fca a Yŋž < Ybb]b[ħcb' _Ydh'ci fbUgh'ħU'i\Y'dYX' Brommel, and eventually Hennington, recognize that she was truly at a pivotal moment in her life. < Ybb]b[ħcb'fYa Ya VYfgh'ħU'i6fca a Y'Ī k Uj _]bX'UbX'[YbYfci g'ħc'Wti bgY' a Y'Xi f]b['ħ]g'h]a YžUbX' Uj'U'fYg 'ħcZ\]g\Ydž=k Uj'W'Y'ħc'WccgY'Udcg]h]j Y'dUħ'Zcf'a m'ZY'i

Hennington earned a B.A.in Elementary Education in December of 1980. In the years after graduation, she worked in the Wheeling, Illinois school district as a substitute teacher. In 1983 she married C. Dayle Hennington, who at the time was the Washington D.C. representative for the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. Hennington joined her husband in D.C., and together they entertained and traveled with Members of Congress and United States Presidents, including Ronald Reagan, George H. Bush and Bill Clinton. Dayle Hennington retired in 2005, and the couple returned to the Chicago area where they currently reside.

During those years in D.C., Juli held several interesting and challenging positions in various important government departments. Dr. Brommel wrote, Ī ă ']'UbX'='fYa Ūn in close contact. She calls or emails frequently to check on my health. In the classroom, Juli was a delight and a quiet class leader. She reached out to know her classmates. Since Juli now lives in Arlington Heights close to my daughter, we meet whenever possible. Each contact makes me aware of Juli as a remarkable \i a Ub'VY]b['i

Brommel honored Hennington by including her in the naming of the Brommel-Mendelson