Professor John C. Elder served as an esteemed faculty member in the Department of Developmental Studies at Sinclair Community College from 1968 through 1989. He developed and initiated the Department of Developmental Studies at Sinclair Community College and was its Chairperson until his retirement in 1989. Under his leadership and direction, the Department of Developmental Studies grew to become one of the largest and most innovative at Sinclair Community College.

Elder was respected statewide and nationally as a leader in the field of developmental education having been cofounder and President of the Ohio Association of Developmental Education and an officer in the National Association of Developmental Education.

Elder was considered by the faculty and staff of the Department of Developmental Studies to be a conscientious and devoted chairperson. Through his community activities he recognized the importance of promoting excellent rapport between Sinclair Community College and the community and always presented a positive image for the College.

He was acclaimed by his professional colleagues and associates as an outstanding educator who served with the utmost distinction, and who was worthy of high honor for the excellent contributions he made during more than two decades of service. 1983 was a landmark for the DEV department with the development and implementation of the Math Learning Center. John Elder provided the necessary support for the math faculty to explore and develop the concept. The program set an excellent example for other Sinclair departments as well as other schools. The DEV Reading Center followed on the heels of the Math Lab. In 1986 Elder was recognized by his peers at the national level as Developmental “Educator of the Year.”

Mr. Elder is a staunch supporter of the college and performed his administrative duties with enthusiasm. His willingness to accept additional responsibilities when called upon was outstanding. For example, during the winter quarter of 1976-77 he volunteered and accepted the role of acting Dean of Extended Learning and Human Services.

At Sinclair, Elder served on Academic Council, Academic Policy, Curriculum, Readmissions, Part Time Faculty, and was Chair of Department Chairperson Council (1983-84).
As a result of his many years of outstanding service and contributions to Sinclair Community College and the Dayton Community, John C. Elder is most deserving of the title, Professor Emeritus.