Dr. Edwina Byrd initiated her relationship with Sinclair Community College in 1970 as an instructor in the Sociology Department and for the next nineteen years, until her retirement in 1989, she worked very hard to promote the image of the College, to increase enrollment and retention, and to enhance the discipline of sociology, both within and outside the College.

Dr. Byrd served on numerous internal committees, including the Student Retention Task Force, Personnel Committee of Faculty Senate, and several subcommittees of Academic Council. She was also active in the community, having served on various boards, including United Way and YWCA and was appointed at the state level to the Ohio Network of Educational Consultants in the field of aging.

In addition to her teaching responsibilities, Dr. Byrd played a major role in curriculum development within the Sociology Department. Her primary contributions in this area were the development of courses in the areas of social work and gerontology. She also developed a course in Black History and taught it for the History Department.

She served in a highly effective manner as Chairperson of the Sociology Department from 1978 through 1985 and worked closely with chairs of other academic departments in stressing the importance of having them include a basic course or courses in sociology in their curricular structure. She also felt it important that the Sociology Department at Sinclair, Wright State University and the University of Dayton work closely together to promote the smooth transition of students.

After receiving her doctorate degree from Ohio State late in her academic career, Dr. Byrd was responsible for developing both the certificate and the degree programs in Gerontology for the Extended Learning and Human Services Division.

During her tenure at Sinclair Community College, Dr. Byrd was a highly devoted faculty member and chairperson who contributed richly to the College's accomplishments and its development. She is duly recognized and revered for the leadership she provided and for her many contributions to the Sociology Department. For this, Dr. Byrd warrants recognition and high praise. She has certainly proven herself as a most worthy candidate for receipt of emeritus honors.