Professor Robert W. MacClennan served as a faculty member at Sinclair Community College from 1973 to 1999. He began his career at Sinclair as chair of the newly formed Speech and Theatre Department. After a Fine and Performing Arts Division reorganization, he was appointed chair of the Theatre and Dance Department, and he remained in that position until his retirement.

In a career that spanned 26 years, it is impossible to note all of the accomplishments and contributions made to Sinclair by Mac, as he was affectionately called by his students and colleagues. However, his most important role was to nurture others -- students, faculty, staff, and the greater Dayton community.

Within the classroom, one would find Mac facilitating learning and “stretching” the minds of his students in order for them to become self-directed learners. In recognition of his excellent teaching efforts, he received the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development Master Teacher Award (1991). As a play director, the theatre stage frequently provided him with the opportunity to help budding actors grow and develop, often in productions never before presented in Dayton. Efforts to produce the play, *Antigone*, at Sinclair (1990, with a guest Greek actress in the leading role) was so well received that Dr. MacClennan was given the Sinclair “Innovator of the Year” award in 1991.

As a department chairperson/faculty member, Mac served as a mentor for faculty and staff, established and implemented the theatre program, co-founded the Chairperson’s Council, and twice served as chair of that council. Mac also served on many college committees over the years and received a merit award each year for his fine work at Sinclair. He has been commended for his many years of service and assistance to the Fall Conference Committee.

An example of his concern and love for young people was made evident by his participation as a founding board member for the MUSE Machine, an organization that has focused on providing learning and growth opportunities in the arts for public school students and teachers. That same type of care and support was exhibited by Mac as he provided opportunities for Sinclair Theatre students and faculty to participate in the annual American College Theatre Festival (ACTF) which has similar goals of student and faculty development.
in the theatre arts. As a result, two Sinclair theatre productions, *Measure for Measure* (1993) and *The Overcoat* (1996) were selected for presentation at regional conferences, and *The Overcoat* was selected as a national winner and was presented at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. (1996). Dr. MacClennan received the ACTF Kennedy Center Gold Medallion (1997) in recognition of his outstanding work in theatre arts education.

In the spirit of our mission as a comprehensive “community” college, Mac has indeed demonstrated through his various leadership roles the connectivity between Sinclair and the community. For example, he has served as Regional Site Coordinator for the Ohio Theatre Alliance High School Competition, Regional Festival Host for the Ohio Thespians, and as a member of the MUSE Machine Go National Committee. A recognized authority in his field, he often served as a consultant for area high schools, festivals, and theaters. Dr. Robert MacClennan has been known for his commitment and loyalty to the college, his willingness to serve, and the enormous generosity of his time. He is most deserving of the title, Professor Emeritus.