

Student Government Association
Tennessee Technological University

SGA Resolution SR-F22-R004
A Resolution to Honor Dr. Michael Birdwell

Whereas, Dr. Michael Birdwell was a beloved history professor, theater director, and storyteller who sadly passed away earlier this year; and,

Whereas, Dr. Birdwell spent his entire life researching the history of Tennessee and the Upper Cumberland region as both a student of Tennessee Tech and later, as a professor. Some of his most important contributions are writing the biography and screenplay of World War I hero and Fentress County native Alvin C. York; and,

Whereas, documenting, writing, and teaching the architectural and moonshine history of the Upper Cumberland, and the history of Tennessee World War I volunteers. Dr. Birdwell also worked on or served as a consultant for a variety of television shows and films, including A&E, PBS, and the History Channel. Dr. Birdwell also received a multitude of awards, most notably the Tennessee Tech General Education Award for Outstanding Teaching, which he received in 2015, for his ability to integrate his research into his teachings and for how he helps students understand not just facts, but the process and meaning of historical change; and,

Whereas, it is imperative that we honor Tennessee Tech students, alumni, and faculty members for their works, especially those who have made such a lasting impact in their fields as Dr. Birdwell has; and,

Whereas, this resolution comes at the request of multiple students who have been touched and inspired by the works and teachings of Dr. Birdwell. As Dr. Birdwell taught a diverse range of students with different majors spanning from education to engineering, who were all impacted and wish that Dr. Birdwell and his dedication to history and education are honored and never forgotten; and,

Whereas, Dr. Birdwell was an inspiration to everyone; his works impact a wide array of people, from exemplifying what a history professor should be to representing many groups whose stories of injustice and contributions are known thanks to his relentless dedication, to preserving history for future generations of Tennesseans to study and learn from.

NOW THEREFORE,

Be it resolved, on this day, November 14th, 2022, that the Student Government Association of Tennessee Tech University hereby expresses its utmost admiration and respect to Dr. Birdwell for his vital contributions to history and historical education; and,

Be it further resolved, that the SGA appreciates Dr. Birdwell's tireless effort to make sure the stories of those who previously went unheard are known and never silenced again.

Respectfully Submitted By:
Marc Anthony Hardin
Senator, College of Education

Co-sponsor(s):
Harrison Simpson
Senator, First Year Assembly

Tyce Henderson
Senator, College of Engineering

Jacob Bruce
Senator, First Year Assembly

For SGA Officer Use Only

Committee Record

Committee Name:	Committee Secretary:	Status:
Student Affairs Committee	Emma Parson	Passed w/ Amendment
Academic Affairs Committee	Megan Jennings	Passed w/ Amendment
Constitutional Committee	Harrison Simpson	Passed w/ Amendment

Senate Record

SGA Secretary:	Aye:	Nay:	Abstain:	Status:
Savannah Griffin	25	2	0	Passed Select one

SGA President:



 Addison Dorris