

WILLIAM & MARY  
RETIREMENT OF BRUCE A. BRACKEN  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Bruce A. Bracken received his Bachelors' of Science Degree in Psychology from the College of Charleston and Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in Educational Psychology, with a specialization in School Psychology, from The University of Georgia. Throughout his 41-year academic career, Professor Bracken has taught a diverse collection of psychologically oriented courses, including Intellectual, Academic, Personality, and Preschool Assessment; the Identification of Gifted and Creative Students; and, a variety of Foundations-related courses (e.g., Statistics, Measurement, Research Methods, General Psychology, Educational Psychology, Roles and Issues in School Psychology).

During his tenure at William & Mary, Dr. Bracken published scores of articles and chapters, multiple scholarly books, two novels, and several psychological and educational tests, curricula, training CDs, and test scoring programs. Dr. Bracken's publishers have estimated that approximately 5,000,000 to 10,000,000 individuals, nationally and internationally, have been evaluated using one of his many assessment instruments. Dr. Bracken has also presented his scholarly work prolifically throughout approximately 10 countries. His most notable tests, the *Bracken Basic Concept Scale* (BBCS) and the *Universal Nonverbal Intelligence Test* (UNIT; Bracken & McCallum) have set standards for equitable assessment practices through innovative measurement approaches and techniques, and through their socially/culturally sensitive items and artwork. The BBCS, a standard preschool assessment tool, is currently undergoing revision (i.e., 4<sup>th</sup> Edition), having contributed to both clinical practice and research for more than 35 years. Notably, the BBCS has been a key dependent variable in high profile research studies (e.g., the United Kingdom's millennium longitudinal study, *The Child of the New Century Cohort Study*, the Harlem Project). Because of its nonverbal administration and equitable assessment design, the UNIT also has been widely used clinically and for research purposes, both nationally and internationally. The UNIT, originally published in 1998, is currently in its second edition.

Dr. Bracken co-founded the *Journal of Psychoeducational Assessment* (JPA) in 1983 and edited the Journal for 23 years. Dr. Bracken was also instrumental in founding the *International Journal of Testing* (IJT) for the International Test Commission. JPA is a highly recognized academic journal, currently in its 38<sup>th</sup> year of publication; IJT is currently in its 20<sup>th</sup> year of publication. Dr. Bracken also served as Associate Editor and Board Member for several national and international educational and psychological journals throughout his career.

In terms of professional service, Dr. Bracken served as President of the *International Test Commission*. He also chaired the American Psychological Association's Committee, *Psychological Testing and Assessment*, and served as: a panel member on the Committee on Disability Determination for Mental Retardation for the *National Academies of Science*; as consultant to the Evidence-based Practice for Adult Literacy Instruction Project for the *National Institute for Literacy*; as member of the Math/Science Task Force for the *National Association of Gifted Children*; as APA Liaison to the *Joint Committee on the Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing*; and, as Executive Board member for the *Trainers of School Psychologists*. Dr. Bracken co-hosted two international conferences during his career – one on *Theories of Intelligence*, and another at William & Mary on *Equitable Assessment Practices*. He has chaired and served on master's thesis and doctoral dissertation committees of many graduate students at his home institutions and internationally. Moreover, he has reviewed tenure and promotion credentials of approximately 50 faculty, nationally and internationally. Dr. Bracken has conducted more than 100 invited professional development presentations to school districts, universities, and professional organizations. Further, Dr. Bracken has chaired or served on professional committees and held elected offices in several state, national, and international organizations.

While employed by the University, Dr. Bracken was awarded more than \$6,000,000 in external research funding as Co-PI, and received the *Lifetime Achievement Award* from the University of Georgia, the APA Division 16 (School Psychology) *Senior Scientist Award*, and the National Association of School Psychologist's *Legends Address Award*. Dr. Bracken is a Fellow in two divisions of the APA, a Fellow in the American Board of Assessment Psychology, and he is the School of Education's only Charter Fellow in the American Educational Research Association. Dr. Bracken was also elected to the prestigious and limited member *Society for the Study of School Psychology*.

Transitioning into retirement, Dr. Bracken is revising the Fifth Edition of his co-edited text, *Psychoeducational Assessment of Preschool Children*; seeking a publisher for his third novel, *Achilles*; developing a battery of developmental assessment instruments (Birth to age 8) - the *Comprehensive Early Assessment of Learning*; and co-editing the first ever *Desk Reference in School Psychology*.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Visitors acknowledges the retirement of Dr. Bruce A. Bracken; expresses its appreciation for his many contributions to William & Mary; and approves, with deep gratitude for his 40 years of service to include 20 years at William & Mary, a change in status from Professor of Education to Professor of Education, Emeritus.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the resolution be spread upon the minutes of the Board and a copy of the same be delivered to Professor Bracken with best wishes for continuing and creative work in the years ahead.