Jean E. Lowrie—A friend, a mentor, a leader in Librarianship

“Dr. Lowrie was the person who inspired me to become active in school librarianship during her leadership at Western Michigan University. Her wise counsel and guidance have encouraged me to reach out to the international community, and to help people learn to ‘assist, share and lead.’ Pioneers like Jean are a rare breed.”

Gerald Brown, former student
Honorary ambassador, International Association of School Librarianship

“I doubt that many people are aware of the enormous contribution Dr. Jean E. Lowrie has made to librarianship, in particular school librarianship, worldwide. She has always been untiring in developing school libraries around the world and has used her untiring imagination to point out new ways to lead the developments.”

Sigrun Klara Hannesdottir
 Former National Librarian of Iceland

Jean E. Lowrie: Biographical Information

Born October 11, 1918 in Northville, NY, Jean E. Lowrie was well educated in both librarianship and elementary education:

• BA, 1940, Keuka College
• BSLS, 1941, Western Reserve University*
• MA, 1956, Western Michigan University, Elementary Education
• PhD, 1959, Western Reserve University*
• DLitt, 1973, Keuka College

Career Highlights:

• Director, department head, professor, first woman President of Faculty Senate Western Michigan University School Library, Kalamazoo
• Executive board, International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions
• Founder, president, executive secretary, International Association of School Librarianship
• President, American Library Association (ALA)
• President, board of directors, American Association of School Librarians
• First recipient of the ALA American Association of School Librarians Distinguished Service Award
• Past president (eight years), Friends of the Hoke Library, Martin County, Florida

*Now known as Case Western Reserve University

Shaping the Future of Leaders in School Media
About the endowment

The “Jean E. Lowrie Endowment” was established to support school media program students at The Florida State University School of Library & Information Studies with scholarships and fellowships. Dr. Wayne Wiegand, F. William Summers Professor at the College, and his wife Shirley Wiegand, created the scholarship to honor Wayne’s former professor and mentor at Western Michigan University.

Dr. Lowrie was instrumental in providing Wayne with the opportunity to receive a National Defense Education Act Fellowship while at Western Michigan University’s School of Librarianship.

“Little did either of us know how much that fellowship would mean to me, how much easier it made my efforts to finish my education, provide for my family, and prepare for what has been a wonderfully rewarding career in the world of librarianship. Despite the huge demands on her schedule, she somehow always found time to counsel and advise me. I am forever grateful to her.”

Dr. Lowrie was director of the school of librarianship at Western Michigan University (1963–1981). She served as president of the American Library Association (1973–74), was the first recipient of the ALA’s American Association of School Librarians Distinguished Service Award (1978), and founded the International Association of School Librarianship.

Your gift to the endowment

Yes, I wish to support the Jean E. Lowrie Endowment

Date ______________________

Name(s) __________________________________________

Please check your preferred address:

☒ Home address______________________________

__________________________________________

City_______________________________________

State _______________ Zip____________________

Phone(______) _____________________________

E-mail ________________________________

☒ Business address__________________________

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

City_______________________________________

State _______________ Zip____________________

Business phone (______) _____________________

Fax (______) _____________________

E-mail ________________________________

Please tell us if you are a:

☒ Friend

☒ Family

☐ FSU alumnus (Class year___________)

☐ Other ________________________________

Gift amount: $ _____________________

Gift Designation: Jean E. Lowrie Endowment Fund # F07255

Payment Method:

☒ Enclosed is a check made out to: FSU Foundation

☒ Charge my credit card:

☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ American Express

Name as is appears on card: ____________________________________________

Card # ________________________________

Expiration date___________________________

Signature ____________________________________________

Please mail your completed gift form to

Mafé Brooks
FSU School of Library & Information Studies
P.O. Box 3062100
Tallahassee, Florida 32306-2100

If you have any questions, contact

Mafé Brooks
(850) 294-8240 • mafe.brooks@cci.fsu.edu

Thank you for your commitment to
THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY