

Patricia Ann Preston

Class of 1951

A professor at Mount Mary College, twice serving as Academic Dean, Sister Patricia Ann Preston dedicated her life to higher education and the betterment of women, particularly the underprivileged and minorities. Ms. Preston graduated Magna Cum Laude with a degree in Spanish from Bryn Mawr College. She entered the School Sisters of Notre Dame novitiate, becoming Sister Patricia Ann Preston in 1958. She earned a master's degree and PhD from Catholic University in Washington DC. Sister Patricia Ann once wrote she was most proud of, "being a friend to those who have fallen through the cracks of society" In fact she was a champion of the cause. Sister Patricia Ann founded and served as director of the first bilingual Project Head Start in the U.S. She was founder and director of a community center for Hispanic families, and helped to create Notre Dame Middle School for Hispanic girls in Milwaukee. She was co-founder of Milwaukee Spectrum High School for girls. Her work at Mt. Mary College spanned four decades, including the previously mentioned stints as Academic Dean, as well as director of multiple college programs and chair of the Spanish department. She retired with Emerita status in 2005.

Spring, 2011