

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE (1987)

Roger Williams Wescott, born in Philadelphia in 1925, graduated summa cum laude and first in his class from Princeton in 1945. After receiving his Ph.D. in Linguistics there in 1948, he held a Rhodes Scholarship at Oxford. Following anthropological fieldwork in Nigeria, he founded and directed the African Language Program at Michigan State University. In addition to his academic duties, Mr. Wescott has directed radio programs and made network television appearances.

Of his 400 publications, 40 are books (including The Divine Animal: An Exploration of Human Potentiality, Funk and Wagnalls, 1969, and Sound and Sense: Linguistic Essays on Phonosemic Subjects, Jupiter Press, 1980). He serves as co-editor of the journals Kronos, Futurica, and Forum Linguisticum and is past president of The Linguistic Association of Canada and the United States. Among his listings are Who's Who in the World, Who's Who in Educational Futuristics, and The World's Who's Who of Authors.

Since 1966, Mr. Wescott has been Professor of Linguistics in the Humanities Division of the Graduate School and Professor of Anthropology in the Social Science Division of the College of Liberal Arts at Drew University in Madison, New Jersey. He founded Drew's Anthropology Department and chaired it for 12 years. For the past seven years, he has been Director of Drew's Linguistics Program.

During the spring semester of 1980, in Asia, Africa, and Europe, he taught Folklore and Comparative Religion aboard the S.S. Universe, a "floating college" sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh. In 1980-81, Mr. Wescott was the Presidential Professor of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Colorado School of Mines. In 1982 and 1983, he served as a forensic linguist in the New Jersey state courts.

Since 1985, he has hosted a state-wide television program entitled "Other Views." He is now President-Elect of the International Society for the Comparative Study of Civilizations in Mainz, West Germany, and Urbana, Illinois. In 1988-89, he will serve as the first holder of The Endowed Chair of Excellence in the Humanities at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.