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3/17/23

Al

Vaughn -
FYI.
From Dr. Michelini

VITA

Francis J. Michelini, Ph. D.
533 Appalachian Avenue
Mechanicsburg, PA. 17055-5505

POSITIONS:

1975 - 1991 *Commission for Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania*
President

Represented public policy interests of 80 private colleges and universities to legislative and executive leadership of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

1955 - 1975 *Wilkes College, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania*

President - 1970 - 1975

Dean of Academic Affairs and Professor of Biology - 1963 - 1970

National Science Foundation, Washington, D.C. - 1962 - 1963

Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Professor of Biology - 1955 - 1962

EDUCATION:

Seton Hall College	Chemistry	B. S. 1949
University of Delaware	Biological Science	M. S. 1950
University of Pennsylvania	Biological Science	Ph. D. 1955

PUBLICATIONS:

In peer reviewed Journals in the field of Developmental Biology.
Papers prepared for presentations at state and federal levels on public policy issues and independent higher education.

HONORARY DEGREES:

Doctor of Laws, University of Scranton
Doctor of Humanities, Lycoming College
Doctor of Humanities, King's College
Doctor of Humane Letters, Alvernia College
Doctor of Science, Wilkes University
Doctor of Humane Letters, College Misericordia
Doctor of Public Service, Luzerne County Community College

PROFESSIONAL HONORS:

1991 "Sheepskin Award"

Awarded by the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Universities for "Exemplary Service to Pennsylvania higher Education"

1991 "Henry Paley Memorial Award"

Awarded by the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities for "Outstanding Advocacy Service to American Higher Education"

1992 Association of Independent Colleges and Universities established the "Francis J. Michelini Award for Outstanding Service"

Awarded annually to a recipient selected by the Association.

American Men of Science
Who's Who in America
Outstanding Educators of America

STATE AND NATIONAL SERVICE:

- 1971 – 1979 By Appointment of Governor Milton Shapp
Governor's Science Advisory Committee
- 1975 – 1979 By Appointment of Governor Milton Shapp
Pennsylvania Science and Engineering Foundation
- 1978 – 1979 Chairman, State Association Executives Council, a national
organization of independent colleges and universities from 40 states
- 1979 – 1982 Board Member, National Association of Independent Colleges
and Universities (NAICU)
- 1987 – 1990 Member, NAICU Commission on State Relations
- 1995 - By Appointment of Governor Thomas Ridge
Pennsylvania State Board of Education Higher Education Council
- 2002 By Appointment of Governor Mark Schweiker
Chairman, Council of Higher Education, State Board of Education
- 1999 - By Appointment of Secretary of the Army
Board of Visitors, United States Army War College
- 2002 Chairman, Board of Visitors, U. S. Army War College

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

American Association for the Advancement of Science
Society of the Sigma Xi

MILITARY SERVICE:

1944 – 1946 U. S. Army Air Corps, Ninth Air Force, European Theater of
Operations, Combat Service Star, Rhine Campaign, Army of Occupation

MARITAL STATUS:

Married Anne Marie (Sterner), 1952, three daughters, Michelle, Lisa, Lucia,
four grandchildren, Erin & Steven Hardiman; Elisabeth & Jeffrey Spengler

*file under
Dr. Michelini's resignation*

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LOUIS SHAFER
JERRY B. CHARITON

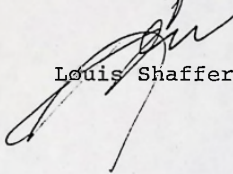
May 23, 1975

Mr. Arthur J. Hoover
Development Office
Wilkes College
170 South Franklin Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703

Dear Art:

I am herewith enclosing the tribute to Dr. Michelini that I have prepared, which is to be inserted in the minutes of the Trustees meeting held on May 9, 1975, immediately following the point where Dr. Michelini tendered his resignation.

Sincerely yours,


Louis Shaffer

LS/aj

The resignation of Dr. Francis J. Michelini as President of Wilkes College was a complete surprise to the Trustees. Dr. Michelini, a native of Clifton, New Jersey, received his Bachelor's Degree at Seton Hall University, his Master's Degree at the University of Delaware, and his Doctorate at the University of Pennsylvania. He came to Wilkes College in 1955 as an Assistant Professor of Biology and he rapidly gained stature as a teacher and scholar. He was appointed Dean of Academic Affairs at the College in 1962 at which time he was granted a leave of absence from Wilkes to become Associate Program Director of the Institutes Section, National Science Foundation, Washington, D.C., where he was charged with the responsibility for reviewing, evaluating and administering programs in science education. He also, at that time, organized programs and tours for visiting foreign scientists who lectured at major American universities under National Science Foundation auspices. He published numerous reports of his research activities in the journals of "Cancer Research," the "American Journal of Botany" and numerous other scientific publications.

Upon the retirement of Dr. Eugene S. Farley, the first President of Wilkes College, Dr. Michelini was selected as its second President in 1970. As the successor to Dr. Farley, who had guided the College from its inception to a position of eminence in the educational field, Dr. Michelini had assumed a formidable task. The presidency of a college in these times is a trying experience and to succeed a person of the stature and accomplishments of Dr. Farley was a tremendous challenge.

Dr. Michelini tackled the problems facing Wilkes at the time in a vigorous though careful and cautious manner with the full realization of the task facing him. He had barely begun to formulate his policies for the future development of Wilkes College when Tropical Storm Agnes struck our community and extensively damaged all of the 58 buildings then occupied by the College. This catastrophe, occurring as it did so shortly after his ascendancy to the presidency, was a challenge to the new President and one which required initiative, imagination, dedication and determination. Dr. Michelini rapidly took hold of the reins and with determination, fortitude and outstanding performance by the entire staff under his direction, the College was able to resume the summer schedule with but a slight delay and the fall term was begun just one week behind the normal schedule.

Not only was Dr. Michelini a tireless worker for the College and an outstanding representative of Wilkes, he was most active in all worthwhile community activities. He served as President of The Family Service Association of Wyoming Valley and he serves on the Boards of the Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, the United Way of Wyoming Valley, Wilkes-Barre Philharmonic Society, Northeastern Pennsylvania Education Television Association, the Westmoreland Club, the Osterhout Free Library and on numerous other Boards. He is recognized as one of the leading spokesmen for higher education in Pennsylvania, and he is currently serving his third term as Chairman

of the Government Relations Committee of the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Universities. He has served on the Executive Committee and as Secretary-Treasurer of that body, and he is a member of the Governor's Science Advisory Committee.

Dr. Micheline has been active in the Pennsylvania Commission for Independent Colleges and Universities, and he had testified on behalf of that Commission at Washington, D.C., at a hearing before the Congressional Committee concerned with aid to private institutions. His presentation at that time was acknowledged to be outstanding.

The educational qualifications, accomplishments and abilities of Dr. Micheline were recognized by the Pennsylvania Commission for Independent Colleges and Universities who called upon him to become its President, and because of the opportunities which that position presented to him to aid and assist independent colleges and universities and the crying need for such aid, Dr. Micheline has accepted that position which he considers not only as a challenge but as an opportunity to continue in his efforts to aid and assist independent colleges and universities.

The departure of Dr. Micheline from Wilkes College will be greatly missed and a real loss to the College. The Board of Trustees, recognizing the opportunities presented to Dr. Micheline and the value of his services to the Pennsylvania Commission for Independent Colleges and Universities, extends its congratulations and best wishes to him for his success in this new undertaking.

IN APPRECIATION

WHEREAS Dr. Francis J. Michelini, President of Wilkes College, is embarking on his fourth year as the Chief Executive Officer of this institution of higher learning; and

WHEREAS after taking office in 1970 he was confronted with the task of continuing the efforts of his predecessor, Dr. Eugene S. Farley, who served for 34 years as President and thereafter as Chancellor and President-Emeritus until his death on September 17, 1973; and

WHEREAS he successfully accepted all the ordinary and extraordinary challenges which were placed by circumstances and fate into his path; and

WHEREAS through his personal effort, long hours of work for weeks on end, and the demonstration of a spirit that inspired others to follow and exhibit the same zest for a bigger and better Wilkes College; and

WHEREAS by virtue of these unusual but extremely vital qualities President Michelini was able to guide an almost totally devastated Wilkes College back from an estimated \$14-million flood loss to its present-day condition of normalcy and growth; and

WHEREAS President Michelini has demonstrated beyond all doubt through his contacts with the college's most important segment -- the students and the alumni -- that he can inspire them to seek the ultimate in their personal goals and pursuit of happiness; and

WHEREAS from the time he arrived on the Wilkes College campus in 1955 as a Biology Professor, through his days as Dean of Academic Affairs, and more recently as President, he has never failed to put the welfare of Wilkes College and its people before his own personal interests: Therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Wilkes College Alumni Association issue on Saturday, October 13, 1973, a formal and official letter IN APPRECIATION to a man who can rightfully feel that he has done all in his power and given totally of himself for the college which he has often said he loves so much.

Director of Alumni Relations

National President
Wilkes College Alumni Association

DR. FRANCIS J. MICHELINI RETIRES
AS PRESIDENT OF WILKES
COLLEGE

HON. DANIEL J. FLOOD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 1975

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, during the course of the approaching recess of the Congress, the tenure of one of the Nation's truly outstanding college presidents will come to an end. Dr. Francis J. Michelini, for the last 5 years the president of Wilkes College in my home city of Wilkes-Barre, will complete his service as head of this great institution of higher learning in the heart of northeastern Pennsylvania.

"Dr. Mike," as he is warmly referred to by his many friends, is turning his vast energy resources to a new direction, as he assumes the presidency of the Pennsylvania Commission for Independent Colleges and Universities, another challenging position which calls for the abilities of a dynamic leader, such as I know Dr. Michelini to be.

The mantle of power and the insignia office were entrusted to Dr. Michelini in 1970, when he was named the second president of Wilkes, succeeding Dr. Eugene Farley, the founding president whose reputation and name linger among the giants of educators. To fill the shoes of a man like Gene Farley was a gamble where the odds were difficult. But Dr. Michelini rose to the occasion, as he soon exhibited the same characteristics of the man he followed. Dr. Farley told me before his death that Mike Michelini was his personal choice for the president's job, because his years of experience and sensitivities to the needs of the human spirit and man's pursuit of education were well embodied in his successor. How right he was, as the years to follow would illustrate.

Scarcely had enough time lapsed for the burdens of office to confront the new Wilkes president, when in June 1972, the worst natural disaster in the history of this Republic, tropical storm Agnes, thrust down upon 17 States in the Nation, hitting hardest in the Wyoming Valley and the district which I am privileged to represent in this Congress. Property damage alone in my region went well over the \$1 billion mark, and the beautiful, sprawling Wilkes College along the banks of the Susquehanna lay in the eye of devastation.

On a hot and trying night following the disaster, Mike Michelini came into my emergency command post headquarters at the U.S. naval training station near the Airport at Avoca. It was then, in the moments of conversation,

that the real meaning of tragedy set in. "I don't know where to start this discussion, Dan, because it is all so hard to believe." With hipboots laden with mud and clothes which became the flood victims' uniform, brown and dusty, Mike Michelini laid out for me the impossible task which lie ahead. Yes, it was hard to believe, and the realities seemed like a bad dream. But we began, and because of Dr. Mike Michelini, adversity once again became progress.

All 50 Wilkes buildings were under water to the second story level, the college president told me. The damage estimate? Neither of us could guess, except that it was well into the millions.

In the next 2 months there ensued a human undertaking such as I had never experienced. Like a man inspired by the deity, Dr. Michelini worked, led, organized and encouraged, day and night, week after week. The desolated book collection in a brand new library was hauled out. Walls were scrubbed. Mud was shoveled. Furniture thrown away. The rebuilding was underway.

I cannot answer how it was all accomplished. But by some miracle the fall session began in September, only 1 week later than scheduled.

As part of the historic Agnes recovery legislation which I sponsored, there were several forms of relief to colleges and universities. Dr. Mike Michelini was the spearheading force behind the regional effort to assist in my legislation, and it should be recorded in the annals of this Congress that his leadership and dedication inspired those with whom he worked, his colleagues, and his representative in this House.

The departure of Mike Michelini from Wyoming Valley will leave its mark elsewhere than at Wilkes College. His community will feel the loss as well. He found time to serve as president of the Family Service Association of Wyoming Valley, and on the boards of directors of the Nesbitt Hospital, the United Way, the Wilkes-Barre Philharmonic Society, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Education Television Association, and the Osterhout Free Library. All of this, while pursuing significant assignments in numerous professional and educational associations and societies.

As this unusual and dynamic leader of men departs of Northeastern Pennsylvania, I salute him for what he has done for higher education, and for the trustees, faculty, students, alumni, thousands of friends and associates, I say, many thanks, and "Ad Multos Annos."