

At the Helm in a Time of Need



SARAH GRIDLEY ROSS

Sarah Gridley Ross was Skidmore's dean from 1915 to 1929. She taught sociology, helped shape academic policy, and oversaw social discipline.

When President Charles Henry Keyes died in January 1925, Ross assumed the president's duties for the rest of the

academic year. That included discussions with a representative of the Middle States Association, which would grant Skidmore accreditation that November.

A residence hall on the downtown campus was named in her honor, and one of the apartments in Scribner Village now bears her name.



JOSEPHINE YOUNG CASE

Josephine Young Case, novelist, poet, and educator, joined the Skidmore College Board of Trustees in 1938 and was its chair from 1960 to 1971. At Case's first meeting as chair, new trustee J. Erik Jonsson offered to buy the Woodlawn estate as a site for a new campus.

In April 1964, before the first building on the new campus was completed, President Val Wilson suddenly died. "Jo" Case assumed the president's duties until Joseph C. Palamountain Jr. took the helm in 1965.

Case helped guide Skidmore through some of its most difficult times and major decisions during the 15 months that she led the College and her many years on the board of trustees.

The Case College Center was dedicated in her honor in 1974.



EDWIN M. MOSELEY

Edwin M. Moseley began his teaching career in 1937. He came to Skidmore in 1961 to assume the dual posts of professor of English and dean of faculty. Moseley became the College's first provost when that position was created in 1967.

In the fall of 1972, President Palamountain suffered a heart attack; Dean Moseley stepped in as acting president. Palamountain would later say, "It is difficult to conceive of what Skidmore would have been without [Moseley's] unique contributions."

Moseley relinquished his administrative duties in 1976 to teach full-time. He died in December 1978.

In 1979 the annual faculty research lecture (established in 1957) was named in his honor.



DAVID W. MARCELL

David W. Marcell began his long association with Skidmore in 1964, when he joined the faculty as director of the American Studies program. He led the program's transition to department status in 1967 and remained its chair until 1977, when he assumed the office of college

provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Marcell served as acting president from November 1983 to April 1984, while President Joseph C. Palamountain took a sabbatical leave.

He left in 1991 to become provost at Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida. He returned to Skidmore in 2001 as leadership gifts officer, a post he still holds.



PHYLLIS A. ROTH

Professor Phyllis A. Roth has had a long and distinguished career at Skidmore. A member of the faculty since 1976, she was a coordinator of the Women's Studies Program from 1983 to 1985, English Department chair from 1985 to 1989, and dean of the faculty from 1990 to 2000.

While President Porter was on sabbatical in 1993, Roth held the reins as acting president from January to August. The College turned to Dean Roth again in 1999, when President Porter retired and the incoming president, Jamienne S. Studley, was still six months away from assuming office. As interim president from January to June, Roth and her staff worked to ease the presidential transition.