Constance L. Hoag established this endowed scholarship in 2001 for the benefit of undergraduate students attending the University of South Dakota. Dr. Hoag is a fourth generation educator who graduated valedictorian of the Oto High School in Oto, Iowa. She attended Wayne State and Morningside Colleges for her undergraduate degree, and she was awarded her Master’s in Education and her Doctorate in Education from The University of South Dakota. She taught elementary school and most recently retired from her faculty position at The University of South Dakota.

This endowment has been established in order to honor those outstanding pre-service teachers who have demonstrated exemplary qualities of professionalism, competence and dedication to excellence during their course work and other learning experiences at The University of South Dakota. High among the components of such professionalism are to be personal qualities of extraordinary effort, an excellent attitude, honesty, integrity, and dedication to their future as an elementary school teacher.

**Criteria:**

The earnings should be awarded to a senior majoring in Elementary Education and/or Special Education.

Applicants are required to submit a two-page typed, double-spaced rationale supporting their personal qualities addressing the following categories: 1) professionalism, 2) dedication to excellence, 3) positive attitude, 4) honesty and integrity, and 5) dedication to their personal future as an educator.