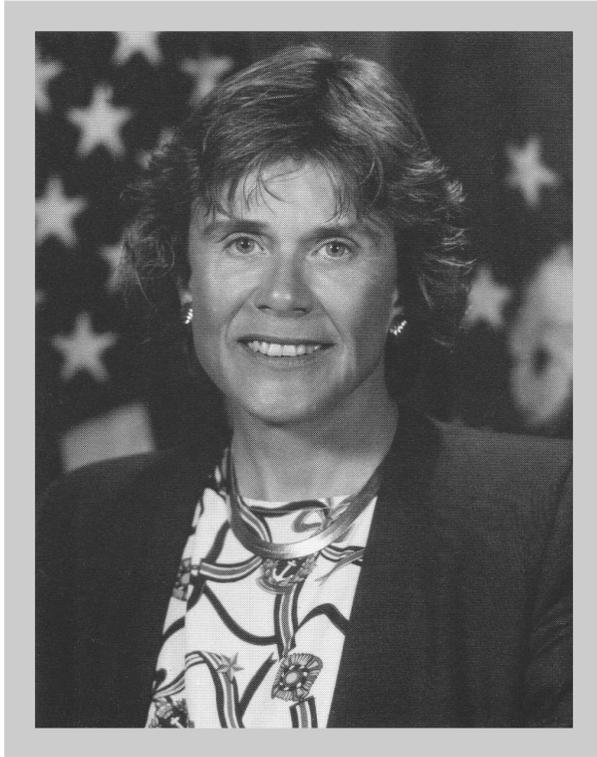




FALCON
FOUNDATION



SCHOLARSHIP IN HONOR OF

SHEILA E. WIDNALL

Sheila E. Widnall

Dr. Sheila E. Widnall was appointed Secretary of the Air Force effective 6 August 1993. She is the first woman military service secretary.

At the time of her appointment, Dr. Widnall was associate provost at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Abby Rockefeller Mauze Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics. She had been a member of the MIT faculty for 28 years. She was the first MIT alumna appointed to the faculty in the School of Engineering, and the first woman to serve as chair of the entire MIT faculty, a post she held in 1979-80.

Dr. Widnall is internationally known for her work in fluid dynamics, especially in the areas of aircraft turbulence and the spiraling airflows called vortices created by helicopters. Aircraft turbulence, disturbances in the flow of air around an aircraft, has an important bearing on performance and safety.

As associate provost, Dr. Widnall had responsibility in several academic areas, including academic integrity, federal relations, faculty retirement, promotion and tenure policies, and international education programs. She has worked closely with MIT President Charles M. Vest and Provost Mark S. Wrighton as chair of a new Council on Federal Relations, which provides guidance on matters of interactions with the federal government and the activities of MIT's Washington Office.

She also served as chair of MIT's Committee on Academic Responsibility, which was established in 1991 to examine the policies and procedures of MIT in regard to the ethical conduct of academic research.

Dr. Widnall has been a familiar figure in Washington, D.C. as a member of the National Academy of Sciences' Panel on scientific responsibility and as a past president of the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences (AAAS). In 1974, she served in government as the first Director of University Research at the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Dr. Widnall has served on many boards, panel and committees in government, academic and industry. She was a member of the Board of Visitors for the U.S. Air Force Academy from 1978 to 1984 and was the board's chair in 1980-82. She also has served on advisory committees to the Military Airlift Command and Wright Patterson Air Force Base. She served as a trustee of the Aerospace Corporation and of the Carnegie Corporation, and is a member of the Carnegie Commission on Science, Technology and Government. She is a past trustee of the Boston Museum of Science and The Charles Stark Draper Laboratory, Inc., of Cambridge, MA.

She served as the fifth woman president of AAAS, the world's leading scientific organization in 1987-88, and chairperson in 1988-89. She was only the fourth engineer to head the AAAS. She also served on the organization's board of directors and on the editorial board of its magazine, *Science*.

As president and chairperson of the AAAS, she testified on numerous occasions to Congressional committees dealing with issues of research, science education and research faculty funding. She also met with individual members of congress to discuss issues of science policy and funding for scientific research.

Sheila E. Widnall

Through her own career and her study of the subject, Dr. Widnall is an expert on the challenges women face in engineering, science and other non-traditional careers.

Dr. Widnall, 54, grew up in Tacoma, WA, nearby McChord Air Force Base. She has always had a longstanding interest in aircraft and aerodynamic and worked summers at the Boeing plant in Seattle during her college years.

Dr. Widnall received both the bachelor of science and master of science degrees in aeronautics from MIT in 1960-1961, and the doctor of science degree in 1964, the same year she joined the faculty as an assistant professor. She became an associate professor in 1970 and professor in 1974.

She headed her department's Division of Fluid Mechanics from 1975 to 1979 and Fluid Dynam-

ics Research Laboratory from 1979 to 1990.

Her awards and honors include the Lawrence Sperry Award of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics in 1972, the Outstanding Achievement Awards of the Society of Women Engineers in 1975, and the Washburn Award of the Boston Museum of Science 1984.

Dr. Widnall is a member of the National Academy of Engineering, the International Academy of Astronautics, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

She is the author of some 70 publications and has given many presentations and lectures at scientific meetings.

Dr. Widnall and her husband, William, also an aeronautical engineer, have two children.

The Falcon Foundation

It is a pleasure for the Gertrude Skelly Trust to establish scholarships in honor of Secretaries of the United States Air Force. Their outstanding civilian leadership through the years has been a key to the strength of our Nation's military posture. It is only fitting that these leaders be recognized and honored by the award, each year, of scholarships to deserving sons or daughters of career military personnel who will become the future leaders in our Air Force.

It is our pleasure to establish this scholarship in perpetuity, honoring Dr. Sheila E. Widnall, Secretary of the United States Air Force (6 August 1993 to present).

*Sincerely,
Gertrude Skelly Trust*


Trustee


Trustee



The Falcon Foundation is a 501(c)(3), non-profit foundation. Its purpose is to provide scholarships to College or Preparatory Schools for motivated young people seeking admission to USAFA and a career in the Air Force.

Although it is a separate organization, the Falcon Foundation works closely with USAFA.