Quotes about Frances Diebold

"The intangible scholarly qualities you stressed were the most meaningful: love of knowledge . . . the fascination and profound respect for all of nature . . . the social responsibilities that must accompany all scientific accomplishment . . ."

"Her motivation to teach was her fondness of people—I even detected that she really didn’t like to be in the lab because of the ‘confounded smell of formaldehyde.'"

"You unfolded the wonder and delight of the living world, you taught well and stimulated learning, and you displayed a genuine interest in the student as an individual."

"To be praised by you—better still, to be teased, as a comrade—seemed the pinnacle of glory."

"The inevitable white lab coat, the literature-heaped hole-in-the-wall office, the occasional VV after a better than usual anatomy drawing, the total lack of time for the superfluous, the un-prefixed last name, the unbelievable penmanship . . ."

"Perhaps I remember the refreshments more than the contents of the seminars—baked snails and other exotic delicacies—and the fact that you always put ice cream in your coffee instead of cream or milk."
The Person
Frances Diebold was a member of the faculty of Kalamazoo College from 1923 until 1967. She was head of the biology department for thirty-two of those years. Her educational career started at the University of Wisconsin, from which she received the B.A. in 1921 and the M.A. in 1927. Ripon College awarded her an honorary Doctor of Science degree in 1959.

Dr. Diebold has been a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and a member of the Michigan Academy of Science, Arts, and Letters; History of Science Society; American Genetic Association; American Association of University Professors; Phi Sigma and Pi Gamma Mu. She is also the author of several laboratory guides.

The Program
Friends and former students from various backgrounds are joining together to honor Dr. Frances Diebold. As a means of recognizing and encouraging students at Kalamazoo College who reflect her joy in learning, these persons are providing financial support for an endowed scholarship program as an expression of their affection and admiration for this great teacher.

The Purpose
This program honors Dr. Frances Diebold with a permanent tribute to her forty-four years of dedicated service to Kalamazoo College. It will provide recognition and financial support for students whose attributes reflect Dr. Diebold's most cherished qualities: a dedication to scholarly effort, an understanding of the role of life sciences in all of man's knowledge, and an appreciation of the necessity of ethical values in the realm of science.

The Scholars
Each year, a number of superior Kalamazoo College students will be named Frances Diebold Scholars. Preference in selection will be given to those who:

- Have interests centered in the biological sciences
- Have demonstrated ability through achievement in course work
- Have shown promise of significant accomplishment in their future professions

The financial award to accompany this designation will be determined on the basis of financial need, as judged by appropriate personnel of the College. In no case will a recipient receive less than $100.

The committee to choose recipients of the scholarships will be designated by the President of Kalamazoo College. Diebold Scholars need not be named each year, but only at the discretion of the selection committee. Any funds not spent at the close of each year will be retained for future Diebold scholarships.