

**American Psychological Association
Award for Outstanding Lifetime Contribution to Psychology
2011
Presented to Florence L. Denmark, PhD**

On the occasion of its 119th annual meeting, the American Psychological Association is honored to recognize your outstanding lifetime contributions to psychology through your laudable ability to inspire and encourage your colleagues, students and associates to go beyond their imagined boundaries, to engage in an expanded world of psychology, and to disseminate psychological knowledge in areas where it will contribute to the public good both nationally and internationally. APA honors your career as extraordinary leader in public service, academia, and mentoring.

You have always held that public service is the most important part of being a leader in psychology and you have devoted yourself to this pursuit. You brought gender issues to the forefront with your scholarly work on women's development and rights and encouraged attention by the profession and the public to the rights of girls and women across the life span. This important work has generated a retinue of academic followers and shone a light on women's important contributions in academia and the workplace. Your fifty years of activity in this sphere has changed the work and lifestyles of women everywhere.

As a professor and department chair you have fostered research on gender issues and human rights, and have written many books and articles addressing aspects of this work. You have successfully pushed your students and faculty towards activism in professional pursuits that put psychological theory into practice. You have encouraged them to contribute to psychological literature and become active participants in psychological organizations through service as leaders and committee members.

As a department chair at Pace University, and earlier as an executive officer for the PhD program at City University of New York, you have encouraged your faculty to pursue their research interests and to contribute to psychology by giving something back. Your door was always open for students and faculty.

As a mentor, you have shown your students and junior faculty how important it is to be involved in the community and the profession. You have shown them what is required of them to be well rounded members of the profession and how to influence others and have their point of view be valued and respected. You have shown this by example. You have listened well and have helped others to see what you see and hear. You have shown how psychology as a profession can provide scientific background and professional acumen to be helpful for the peoples of the world. Those who know you describe you as doing all you do with "grace and leadership".

You have been a role model to all psychologists and your participation in and leadership of The American Psychological Association and other international organizations and your service as the main representative of the American Psychological Association's Non Governmental Organization (NGO) United Nations (UN) team attests to this. As the leader of the APA team at the UN, you have been an outstanding leader for the first ever Psychology Day held at the UN and two others, and Chair of the UN NGO Committee on Ageing. In these roles, you have been able to bring concerns about the mental health, well-being and human rights of older persons to the appropriate departments at the UN. As Chair, you used your considerable charisma to attract UN leaders to participate in the International Day of Older Persons for the six years of your chairpersonship. Because of your dynamic personal leadership style, you have made inroads in bringing vital concerns to the attention of UN personnel.

In recognition of these many contributions and exemplary leadership, the members of the American Psychological Association take great pride in presenting you the 2011 Award for Outstanding Lifetime Contribution to Psychology.