



Mothers Association

at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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Dr. Geneva Belford Receives 2007 Medallion of Honor

URBANA - Dr. Geneva Belford will receive the Mothers Association Medallion of Honor at the 2007 Mom's Weekend Annual Banquet on Friday, April 13th. The annual award recognizes an individual who has used her talents to enrich the lives of others through example and service. The Mothers Association at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign honors Dr. Belford for these qualities, her great enthusiasm and continual encouragement of her students and colleagues.

Dr. Belford's affiliation with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign began as a student in the mid-50's. She joined the faculty in the 1970's, and currently serves the Department of Computer Science as Professor Emerita and Departmental Graduate Program Coordinator.

She has held teaching positions as a Professor in both the Mathematics and Computer Sciences Departments. Dr. Belford has served as a member of the Graduate College Executive Committee, the Champaign-Urbana Senate (Review and Executive Committee) and as the UIUC Chapter President of the American College of University Professors. She has also served as Associate Dean of the Graduate College and Departmental Graduate College Coordinator. Dr. Belford's long-time affiliation with the University has demonstrated a successful tenure as a policy maker, advisor and role-model.

The nomination and support letters for Dr. Belford provide many examples of her tireless devotion to her work as a mentor and teacher and to the positive impact she has had in the field of computer science worldwide. Dr. Belford's nominator, Professor Klara Nahrstedt, notes, "Many of her students have been international students who have gone back to their home countries, where their stories of friendly and helpful mentoring from Professor Belford have been a source of good will, both for this campus and for the United States."

Professor Roy Campbell says, "She has spent much time improving courses and curriculum for students. She has devoted much time as to how the University can improve itself as a human organization, especially through her work in the Senate.

Throughout her career she has distinguished herself as a computer scientist, a teacher, a mentor of students, a friend and a colleague.”

Some of the nomination letters spoke to Dr. Belford’s working relationship with students:

Dr. Momin Mirza writes, “...despite the fact that I was thousands of miles away from Urbana-Champaign Professor Belford consistently mentored me...she always remained available...I valued both her professional advice on doing my PhD and wise feedback regarding my concerns on the impact of doctoral work on my personal and family life. Writing this letter of support is only a small token of appreciation for the tremendously valuable source of guidance.”

Dr. Ozgur Ulvsoy agrees: “During my difficult moments, untiring help and advice of Dr. Belford kept me on the right track. Besides her excellent supervision, her timeless patience, and positive nature also left a deep impression on me. Even after graduation, she was always available whenever I needed held her help.”

Sohaib Abbasi, President and CEO of Informatica Corporation adds, “...her personal commitment and dedication was clearly evident in both her teaching and her research. Through my experience as a teaching assistant, I know Professor Belford’s contributions enriched the educational experiences of countless students.

The Mothers Association is proud to bestow the Medallion of Honor upon Dr. Geneva Belford at our Mom’s Weekend Banquet on Friday, April 13, 2007.

Susan Smith, 2007 Medallion of Honor Committee Chair

For more information about the Medallion of Honor and the Mothers Association, please visit our website at www.uofiparentprograms.uiuc.edu or call the Parent Programs Office at 217.333.7063.

The Mothers Association at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, established in 1923, is one of the nation’s longest-serving parent organizations. The Association supports programs, services and activities that promote the health, safety and well-being of the University community and serves as the parent liaison to the campus.

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