

2008 ITAA Fellow – Nora MacDonald



Nora has been an active and consistent member of ITAA for over forty years. She has organized two annual meetings, chaired numerous committees, and served as President and Secretary of Eastern Region ACPTC and as President-Elect, President, and Counselor of ITAA. She was instrumental in the name change in 1991. She was the first Chair of the Design and Aesthetic Committee and helped the design exhibits/show become an integral part of each annual meeting. As part of the Interdisciplinary Action committee, she helped develop the focused issue of *CTRJ* which dealt with Design and Aesthetics. More recently she has chaired the Curricular Development and Review Committee which has worked to develop standards for Clothing and Textiles programs.

She collaborated with the United Nations Committee on Ageing, ITAA, and the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association (SGMA) to bring these three organizations together to promote clothing needs of the +55 consumer, thus bringing national recognition to ITAA. The primary efforts culminated in a seminar and fashion show in New York City on October 1, 1999, to celebrate and focus on the UN 1999 International Year of Older Persons.

She has served as a juror of research papers, design competition entries, Best Paper Awards, and graduate student papers for ITAA. At West Virginia University she has received the Outstanding Teaching Award at the Division and College level, Outstanding Honors Advisor, and the Gamma Sigma Delta Senior Faculty Award of Merit.

Her book, *Principles of Flat Pattern Design*, is a standard in many apparel design programs. As an active designer and researcher, she has encouraged and mentored many students and younger faculty members to take the extra mile to excellence.

Her interests in special needs began in graduate school at Iowa State University and was fostered in the 1970s through work with the rehabilitation community. In 1982 she was awarded first place in the National Fashion Design Competition for the Physically Disabled, sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts. Among the first to promote evolution of special needs design to the mass market, Nora's original apparel designs were commercially produced for Sears Home Health Care Catalogs in the mid-1980s.

Nora's significant contributions to West Virginia University, ITAA, and the field of apparel and textiles are significant. She not only creates vision, but inspires others to share and act. For her years of service, she is nominated by her peers for the ITAA Fellow distinction.