

2000 ITAA Fellow – Laura Jolly



Laura Jolly is currently Chair of the Interior Design, Merchandising and Textiles Department at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. Prior to this appointment, she served on the faculty at Oklahoma State University from 1983-1995. From 1991-1993, she also served as Director for the Center for Apparel Marketing and Merchandising. Laura received the M.S. and Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University in 1979 and 1983, respectively, and a B.S. in 1977 from the University of Mississippi.

Laura has an impressive record of service to ITAA, having been active in elected office, including President, or on a committee almost every year since the late 1970's. She was program chair of the 2000 ITAA meeting in Cincinnati. She has taken an active part in the strategic planning process by serving on and chairing the Strategic Planning Committee, as well as being the ITAA representative to the Scottsdale Conference on Professional Identity and Unity, and being on the Critical Linkages II Committee. Her supporters have described her as "not only a true leader of the organization, but also one of the core members who is responsible for its continued growth and success" and observed that "She has taken time to reach out and include many of the newer, less established members of the association not only to make them feel very welcome, but also to help them become actively involved as contributing members. In doing so, she has been an incredible mentor, fellow member, colleague, and friend to many who belong to ITAA."