

2003 ITAA Fellow – Mary Lynn Damhorst



Mary Lynn Damhorst, Iowa State University, was honored for her 25 years of sustained and dedicated service to ITAA. Her colleagues especially recognized the importance of her leadership and vision to the future of our organization and to the field of clothing and textiles. Mary Lynn has served in numerous leadership roles including her current position as Coordinator of the Textiles and Apparel Education Futures Task Force.

She also was Vice President of Planning from 1999-2003 and vice President of Research and Education from 1989-1991. In addition to serving as a reviewer for numerous journals and special issues, Mary Lynn served on the *Clothing and Textiles Research Journal* editorial Board. In 1999, Mary Lynn was honored as the ITAA Prentice-Hall Distinguished Lecturer.

Mary Lynn is a gifted and innovative teacher whose course content reflects changes in the socio-cultural milieu as well as in students' needs. Faculty at various institutions have praised the text, *The Meanings of Dress*, that Mary Lynn co-edited and the Instructor's Manual for the text that she independently developed. Colleagues noted that she has been instrumental in educating emerging scholars as evidenced by former students who are "teaching, publishing quality research, and participating in ITAA."

Mary Lynn's research program is noteworthy and significant. Her considerable contributions in the area of socio-cultural analysis of dress and communication through appearance have made her one of the "most frequently-cited authors in the field." In the words of her colleagues, "She is a scholar who identifies linkages within and beyond disciplines, and her published work represents a model for future research direction in the field of clothing and textiles."