

**2009-10 OCUFA STATUS OF WOMEN
AWARD OF DISTINCTION
CITATION FOR CAROLINE ANDREW**

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Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations
Union des Associations des Professeurs des Universités de l'Ontario



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Read by Helene Cummins, Chair, OCUFA Status of Women Committee

Professor Caroline Andrew is a leading authority on women's studies and in social development as it relates to the status of women. Her reputation in these areas stems from her scholarly achievements, her community activism, and her organizational leadership. She stands out as a model of professionalism.

Her list of achievements is as lengthy as is her active involvement in issues affecting women academic staff.

Professor Andrew played a key role in the creation of the University of Ottawa's Women's Studies program, was its first coordinator, and has been credited with helping make the university an environment where women can aspire to, and succeed, in leadership positions. She was instrumental in obtaining the Women's Studies Chair shared between Ottawa and Carleton universities.

She has been especially committed to the establishment of an inter-faculty and inter-disciplinary program in women's studies, an innovation in those days and a model ever since.

Professor Andrew's deanship of the University of Ottawa's Faculty of Social Sciences provided her important leverage to ensure equality of opportunity to women staff. During her tenure, the faculty introduced a number of new, interdisciplinary programs that provided more opportunities for women academic staff.

Deeply involved in women studies and local politics, she has managed brilliantly to blend academic development with social activism.

At the community level, she is co-chair of the Woman and Leadership series at the University of Ottawa, which feature conversations with notable women in senior decision-making positions sharing their experiences of leadership. She has played a vital role in creating local women's organizations, such as the City for All Women Initiative, which assists immigrant women in Ottawa.

At the national level, as president of the Canadian Institute for the Advancement of Women, Professor Andrew broadened the exploration of issues facing women academic staff.

At the international level, she is co-chair of the organizing committee of "*Women's World*," an international conference, being held for the first time in Canada, that will bring together university- and community-based researchers, activists, and policy makers. Her international



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work also includes the presidency of *Women in Cities International*, an exchange network for those concerned with gender equity and the place of women in cities on all five continents. Current projects being undertaken by this organization include increasing women's safety; promoting women's access to public spaces; and improving women's access to water and sanitation in Asian cities.

Caroline Andrew epitomizes 'true' leadership," writes University of Ottawa Professor Ruby Heap, one of Professor Andrew's award nominators. "She has made the difference in the lives of women at the University of Ottawa and beyond, including students, professors, administrators, politicians, and grassroots workers and activists."

Professor Andrew's impressive work ethics, her unwavering commitment to the improvement of the status of women in higher education, and her unfailing efforts to strengthen Women's Studies as a legitimate and ground-breaking field of inquiry have without a doubt helped transform the academy into a more positive environment in which women may aspire to and succeed in leadership positions.

Finally, Professor Andrew's warmth and enthusiasm is legendary. As one of her nominees writes: "As did so many of my colleagues, men and women alike, I was able to draw comfort and courage from Professor Andrew's support and encouragement on both the personal and professional levels."

Caroline Andrew commands deep respect within the academy, which is matched only by the affection in which she is held by the broader community.

The astounding volume of her work — and the enormous impact that work has had on the lives of literally innumerable women in academe — makes our committee very, very proud to confer the OCUFA Status of Women Committee Award of Distinction on Dr. Andrew.