

UMSL 2009 Trailblazers



Sonya Bahar

First female tenure-track professor in physics department; First female director of the Center for Neurodynamics; Awards include Innovation Award from Academy of Science-St. Louis and the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientist and Engineers from the U. S. President's Office of Science and Technology.



Charlotte Claeys

Contributed significantly to the University through her leadership and involvement in several student organizations and her research and co-authorship of an assessment of Electronic and Interpersonal networking for than 120 women students and leaders at the Women's Networking Series.



Judith Walker de Felix

Contributed greatly to the university through her leadership roles in both the planning and reaccreditation site visit of the Higher Learning Commission with great success; As an Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Graduate School she exercises leadership in academic planning, program reviews, assessment, graduate education, faculty and student academic grievances, academic dishonesty, charter schools, and reaccreditation.



Hazel M. Erby

First African American female to serve on the St. Louis County Council, representing the 1st District; first African American female to chair the council; former Director of the Community Partnership for the Prevention of Drug and Substance Abuse; founder of the Teenage Allowance Program (TAP City) in University City; awards include the Zeta Phi Beta Community Service Award, the Dr. Dorothy I. Height Leadership Award from the National Council of Negro Women and the 2008 recipient of the Annie Malone Child Advocate Award.



Diane Toulitos

Winner of the International Golden Medallion of Rigas Veles-tinis presented to her by President Papoulias of Greece for her international pioneering innovations in Byzantine and Greek musicology and for her publications promoting and uniting the common culture of Greece and other Balkan nations; received the Athena Award that honors women of excellence for their major and unique contributions on a national and regional level.



Laura X (Laura Rand Orthwein Jr.)

A pioneer in America's second wave of Feminism. Laura has led an exceptional life devoted to peace, civil rights and liberties, the environment and the advancement of women and fairness for all. Primary among her accomplishments are the Women's History Library, an activity that collected and published on microfilm almost one million documents relating to women from 1962 - 1974, and successfully leading the 20 year national campaign to outlaw marital rape and date rape. Her archive of her St Louis childhood, and all her interests from 1974 forward has been donated to the Western Historical Manuscript Collection at the University of Missouri-St. Louis and the Laura X Papers Project is presently seeking staff and volunteers to process the documents. [Contact Laura_Xproject@umsl.edu.](mailto:Laura_Xproject@umsl.edu)