



ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE
ALUMNAE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2012

Presented to
H. Catherine Wild Skinner '52



CATHERINE WILD SKINNER, class of 1952, we honor you today with the Alumnae Achievement Award. This award is presented to alumnae whose accomplishments and service to society exemplify the values and virtues set forth by the College.

Your biography is testimony to what intelligence combined with drive, hard work, and inspiration can accomplish.

By the late 1950s, you had already earned your master's degree and a doctorate in your undergraduate major, geology. You had married a fellow geologist and moved to Australia—where you obtained definitive X-ray spectra for carbonates of calcium and magnesium—then returned to America. You also researched protein crystallography at the NIH Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases.

By the mid 1960s you were a research associate in the Yale University Department of Surgery. There, you extended the principles and techniques of geology and geochemistry to aspects of human health and disease, embracing interdisciplinary research and teaching as the wave of the future. You lectured in orthopedics, biology, and geology at Yale, and became a fellow of the Geological and Mineralogical Societies of America, and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

As your academic and research career developed, you also raised three daughters and found time to lead the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences, to undertake the responsibilities of master of a Yale undergraduate college, and to give time to community organizations.

Catherine, your stellar accomplishments reflect the highest values of the College, and the Alumnae Association is honored to present you, on your sixtieth reunion, with the Achievement Award.

Cynthia L. Reed '80
President
Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College

Jane E. Zachary
Executive Director
Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College