

ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2020

PRESENTED TO



Lila Mary Gierasch '70

LILA MARY GIERASCH, CLASS OF 1970, the Alumnae Association is pleased to honor you with the Achievement Award. This award is presented to alumnae whose accomplishments and service to society exemplify the values and virtues set forth by the College.

Lila, throughout your renowned scientific career, you have built an extraordinary reputation as a professor and have helped train future generations of scientists.

A distinguished student at Mount Holyoke, you were a Mary Lyon Scholar and were awarded a National Science Foundation Fellowship. After graduation, you went on to Harvard University, where you earned your doctorate in biophysics, thus starting your career as an educator. You have held a number of faculty positions at institutions including Amherst College, the University of Delaware and the University of Massachusetts, where you are a distinguished professor and head of the chemistry, biochemistry and molecular biology programs. In addition, you have served as editor-in-chief of the Journal of Biological Chemistry since 2016.

Over the course of your career you have published more than 250 scholarly, peer-reviewed articles. A 1985 recipient of the Alumnae Association's Mary Lyon Award, you have gone on to receive a number of awards recognizing your outstanding contributions to the field of peptide and protein chemistry, including the American Chemical Society's Garvan-Olin Medal, which recognizes distinguished service to chemistry by women scientists, and the Dorothy Crowfoot Hodgkin Award for exceptional work in protein sciences. In 2016 you were inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and in 2019 you were one of only one hundred scientists inducted into the National Academy of Sciences.

LILA, for your outstanding accomplishments, the Alumnae Association is honored to present you with the Achievement Award on this, your fiftieth, reunion.

MARIA Z. MOSSAIDES '73
PRESIDENT
ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

NANCY BELLOWS PEREZ '76
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE