



Rachel Croson Recipient of the 2017 Carolyn Shaw Bell Award

Dr. Rachel Croson, Dean of the College of Social Science and MSU Foundation Professor of Economics at Michigan State University, is the recipient of the 2017 Carolyn Shaw Bell Award. The award is given annually by the American Economic Association's (AEA) Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession (CSWEP) to recognize and honor an individual who has furthered the status of women in the economics profession. This award will be presented at the annual CSWEP business meeting and award ceremony held during the 2018 AEA Meeting in Philadelphia.

Professor Croson earned her doctorate in economics from Harvard University in 1994 and spent the first thirteen years of her career on the faculty at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. She has also served as Professor of Economics and Director of the Negotiations Center at the University of Texas at Dallas, as Division Director of Social and Economic Sciences at the National Science Foundation, and as Dean of the College of Business and the John and Judy Goolsby–Virginia and Paul Dorman Endowed Chair and Professor of Economics at the University of Texas at Arlington.

Professor Croson is an accomplished scholar and gifted academic leader who has devoted an enormous amount of energy and creativity to mentoring women in economics. She has been a vital part of CSWEP's mentoring effort since 1998, when she was a mentee in its very first workshop. Building on that experience, she spearheaded the next phase of the program, acting as Principal Investigator on the NSF grant that funded the CeMENT workshops, organizing them for many years, and designing an evaluation that demonstrated their remarkable impact. She has implemented mentoring programs wherever she has worked, targeting women at all levels, from undergraduates to senior women seeking leadership positions. As Tanya Rosenblat remarks in her nomination letter, "Dr. Croson has been a champion for women economists in every position she has held and at every stage in her career."

The seventeen women who write in support of Professor Croson's nomination include many students and formal mentees. But even more remarkable are the many letters from women who merely met her at a conference, or talked with her after a seminar, and who found her advice and feedback to be profoundly helpful. One of her students says, "She has an uncanny ability to cut through to the heart of a matter, speak for five minutes, and completely straighten out your life." Another sees her as "planting herself at conference lunch tables, serving as a hub" where women can come for mentoring and advice.

In scholarship, Professor Croson is one of the most influential experimental economists of her generation. She is best known for her experimental research on bargaining and negotiation, public goods provision, and exporting the experimental method to other disciplines, such as operations management. Her work includes several widely-cited papers documenting and exploring gender differences in economic behavior. Dr. Croson also has a distinguished record of service to the profession and public service, including as an Associate Editor for the *American Economic Review* and many other journals, service on NSF and NIH panels, and a two-year appointment on the Board of CSWEP.

Named after the first Chair of CSWEP, the Carolyn Shaw Bell Award was created as part of the 25th Anniversary celebration of the founding of the CSWEP and is given annually since 1998 to an individual who has furthered the status of women in the economics profession through example, achievements, increasing our understanding of how women can advance in the economics profession or mentoring others. From most recent to first, previous recipients of the Carolyn Shaw Bell Award are: Cecelia Rouse, Janet Currie, Hilary Hoynes, Rachel McCulloch, Catherine C. Eckel, Sharon Oster, Elizabeth Hoffman, Elizabeth E. Bailey, Anne Carter, Olivia S. Mitchell, Barbara Fraumeni, Claudia Goldin, Barbara Bergmann, Robin L. Bartlett, Margaret Garritsen de Vries, Francine Blau, Marianne Ferber, Eva Mueller, Sandra Ohrn Moose, and Alice M. Rivlin.

For more information about this award, contact Amber Pipa at apipa@ucsb.edu