Karen’s Story…

Karen M. Emmons, Ph.D., is Deputy Director of the Center for Community-Based Research, Associate Director of the DF/HCC’s Initiative to Eliminate Cancer Disparities and Leader of the DF/HCC’s Health Communication Core. She is Associate Dean for Research, and Professor of Society, Human Development and Health, at Harvard School of Public Health.

Dr. Emmons is a leader in research on community-based approaches to cancer prevention particularly for underserved populations. Among her research interests are smoking cessation and development of policy interventions related to tobacco. Dr. Emmons has conducted seminal research on reducing environmental tobacco smoke among young children from low-income families. She has also studied populations at high-risk for cancer, including childhood cancer survivors and family members of cancer patients. Her work in this area targets prevention of lung cancer, colorectal cancer, and melanoma.

Dr. Emmons provides substantial senior leadership in the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center, serving on the executive committees for the Risk Reduction Program and Population Science, overseeing its health communication disparities efforts.

Dr. Emmons received her Bachelor’s degree from the University of Illinois and her doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the State University of New York in Stony Brook. She completed an internship in Behavioral Medicine at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

In Karen’s own words:
“ELAM helped me think through the process of how my skills could be leveraged for the next step. It also helped me network in ways that resulted in my being asked to apply for positions that I myself would have thought out of reach. By going through that process, I realized that in fact such positions were a perfect fit, and that I did have the necessary skills.

“My LC has been an invaluable resource…”

My learning community has been an invaluable resource for developing my ideas of next professional steps and getting feedback. They are also a great source of motivation—checking in regularly and providing validation. The broader networking providing through ELAM, particularly having access to Deans, was also invaluable.

There are likely some very worthy candidates at institutions that do not have the resources to support their attendance. I would love to see ELAM set up a fund that would support the opportunity for participation in these circumstances.”

…supporting a legacy of women’s leadership
Thank you, Class of 2008

Lucile Adams-Campbell  Ellen Cosgrove  Julia Johnson  Andrea Pozez
Shari Barkin  Mary Anne Delaney  Veronnie “Faye” Jones  Victoria Seewaldt
Miriam Bar-on  Elizabeth Drum  Janice Knebl  Rache Simmons
Cynthia Beeman  Barbara Ducatman  Leslie Kohman  M. Catherine Spires
Emelia Benjamin  Karen Emmons  Jean Kutner  Margaret Steele
Vera Bittner  Stacie Geller  Katherine Liu  Lisa Sullivan
Jan Busby-Whitehead  Lynn Gordon  Ana Lopez  Janet Williams
Carrie Byington  Bonnie Green  Ana Maria Lopez  Marsha Wills-Karp
Diana Cardenas  Janice Herbert-Carter  Robin Miskimins  Patricia Winokur
Baretta Casey  Sheryl Heron  Geneviève Moineau  Jennifer Woodward
Archana Chatterjee  Sharon Hull  Mary Moran  Sherry Wren
E. Dale Collins  Jesse Joad  Debra Perina  Dani Zander

"ELAM deserves our support and I am pleased to contribute." -Lisa Tedesco
(ELAM Class of 1997)

Class of 2008: Cumulative giving of $2,000 and 29% participation in ELAM stewardship. Thank you for your continued support.

The ELAM® Program was established as a legacy of women’s leadership rooted in the first medical school for women. This legacy of women’s leadership now continues with YOU. Many ELUMs have described their experience in ELAM as life changing, transformational, empowering and affirming. Others have called it priceless and a gift. Participating in ELAM requires a significant commitment. We ask for your continued commitment and support, to ELAM and to advancing the legacy of women’s leadership, through your gift.

As we celebrate the successes of ELUMs, we recognize that our work remains far from done. Along with preparing women for roles as leaders and change agents, we are committed to provide continuing stewardship of your leadership journeys. With your help, we will begin to plan a range of activities focusing on ELUMs by:

Building the ELAM Community: expanding support for national and regional face-to-face meetings of ELAM alumnae with seed grants from our new Legacy Fund as well as more powerful virtual connections

Sustaining Successful Leadership and Transitions: reaching out to address all aspects of the leadership continuum, from changing roles to moving to new positions within or beyond their institution

Developing Post-ELAM Educational Opportunities: creating a portfolio of advanced modules to further your professional development beyond ELAM

Introducing the Legacy Fund

In April 2009, the graduating ELAM class raised more than $20,000 in donations and pledges, with the goal of establishing explicit support for ELAM alumnae programming. With their generous initial contribution of $7,000, ELAM has initiated the Legacy Fund aimed at providing support for community building within and across classes and learning communities. Once the Legacy Project funds reach $25,000, ELAM will establish a process for ELAM alumnae to apply for seed grants to sponsor class reunions, regional ELUM gatherings and similar events. In the Legacy Fund’s initial phase, a portion of your gift will go to building this fund.