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Project Olympus: Enabling Talent and Ideas to Grow in the Region

Lenore Blum (PhD MIT) is Distinguished Career Professor of Computer Science at Carnegie Mellon where she is co-Director of the NSF- [ALADDIN Center](#) and faculty advisor to the student organization, [Women@SCS](#). She is internationally recognized for her work in increasing the participation of girls and women in STEM fields and has co-founded many pro-active organizations such as the Math/Science Network and its *Expanding Your Horizons* conferences. In 2005, in recognition of this work, Lenore received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring.

Before coming to Pittsburgh in 1999, Lenore lived in Berkeley California where she taught at UC Berkeley, founded the Mills College Department of Mathematics and Computer Science (the first CS department at a women's college), was senior researcher at the International Computer Science Institute, and Deputy Director of the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute. Her research, from her early work in model theory and differential fields (logic and algebra) to her more recent work in developing a theory of computation and complexity over the real numbers (mathematics and computer science), has focused on merging seemingly unrelated areas. She has served the professional community in numerous capacities including as President of the Association for Women in Mathematics, vice-President of the American Mathematical Society and is currently a member of the MIT Mathematics Visiting Committee.

Her most recent creation, and passion, is [Project Olympus](#), a high tech innovation center with the goal of building a climate/culture and community to enable talent and ideas to grow in the Pittsburgh region. See: <http://www.olympus.cs.cmu.edu/>