

It is with great honor we nominate Dr. Teresa D. LaFromboise for the National Multicultural Conference and Summit (NMCS) Distinguished Elder Award. Dr. LaFromboise has distinguished herself as a leader in indigenous psychology and champion of multicultural psychology since she was in graduate school at the University of Oklahoma. She provided leadership to a fledgling organization, the Society of Indian Psychologists (SIP), as an early career psychologist in the 1980s and became the second President in 1986. LaFromboise served as President of Division 45 of APA, is a fellow of three of the sponsoring Divisions of the NMCS (17, 35, 45), is a past member of many APA boards and committees, and is a tireless advocate for suicide prevention work in Indian Country. She recorded the *Counseling Native American Indians* video, the first of its kind as part of a packaged multicultural training program in 1994.

Through her leadership, scholarship, mentoring, and advocacy Dr. LaFromboise has addressed the topic of American Indian adolescent suicide in indigenous communities where suicide is a major problem, in academia where her research continued to focus on the issue, and in the halls of Congress where she testified on multiple occasions as a voice for this epidemic among indigenous youth. Dr. LaFromboise published her suicide prevention program, *American Indian Life Skills Development Curriculum*, that is now a promising practice in the National Registry of Evidence Based Practices with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). This is the only culturally based approach to suicide prevention that has met the registry criteria.

Dr. LaFromboise is also a mentor. As I lead a group of students to a past NMCS, they were thrilled when she joined us for dinner and they had the opportunity to talk with her informally about their interests. This event will live on in their memories as they were awestruck to have this icon of indigenous psychology paying attention to them. She also serves as a SIP mentor. Dr. LaFromboise has guided many others during their education and careers.

During her academic career, LaFromboise has published 48 peer reviewed articles, 50 book chapters, 10 books and curricula, and 4 book reviews. She has served on editorial boards and as a reviewer for journal articles and grants. LaFromboise has been part of professional presentations at conferences internationally, recorded internet, DVD, movie, and television programs addressing multicultural counseling, teaching, mentoring, and leadership.

Among the honors Dr. LaFromboise has received include the Anne Ninham Medicine Mentorship Award from Stanford University, the Division 45 Distinguished Career Contributions to Service Award, the SAMHSA Excellence Award, Effective Practices & Models in Communities of Color Award from the First Nations Behavioral Health Association, Division 45 Distinguished Career Contributions to Research, Indian Health Service Mental Health Program Award, Women of Color Psychologies Award from the Association for Women in Psychology, and Distinguished Scholar of the American Educational Research Association to name a few.

Teresa LaFromboise is an icon among indigenous psychologists and is should definitely be a NMCS Distinguished Elder.

Respectfully,

Gayle E. Morse, PhD
SIP President 2017-2019

Art Blume, PhD
SIP President 2015-2017

Jacqueline S. Gray, PhD
SIP President 2011-2013