



# *Alums "Making a Difference"*

Lori Garkovich

Rosary

Class of 1968

**Provost's Distinguished Service Professor  
State Extension Specialist**

I hold a B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Missouri-Columbia. In 1976 I joined the faculty of the University of Kentucky as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology, was promoted to an Associate Professor in 1982, and a Professor in 1990. Currently Coordinator of the Public Service and Leadership specialization in the Community Communications and Leadership Development undergraduate degree and is a Community Development State Extension Specialist.

My research specialty areas include farm family/household change, community change, and land use issues. This research explores the economic effects of the equine industry in Kentucky and factors influencing organizational and community development. The extension specialty areas include strategic planning, community/economic development, leadership development, and sociodemographic trend analyses. I also facilitate strategic planning and community visioning processes in communities and civic organizations across Kentucky. These processes enable me to assist local people in defining their future and identifying the actions that will move them toward the tomorrow they want for their families and their communities. I have facilitated strategic planning related to economic development, land use and growth management, tourism development, and general community development.

Most recently, I have been selected as the Provost's Distinguished Service Professor (2009-2012). I am proud to be a recipient of the UK Department of Sociology's Distinguished Leadership and Service Award and the UK Alumni Association's Great Teacher Award (2009); the Bonnie Teater Community Development Educator Lifetime Achievement Award (2008, Sponsored by the Southern Rural Development Center); the Southern Rural Sociological Association's Excellence in Extension and Outreach Award (2004); the Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Teaching, Tenured Faculty (1997); Gamma Sigma Delta, Master Teacher Award, University of Kentucky Chapter (1995); Noel P. Gist Distinguished Alumnus Award, University of Missouri, Department of Rural Sociology (1993); and the Rural Sociological Society's Award for Excellence in Teaching (1987).

NOTE on high school activities: I was a member of both the speech team (extemporaneous speaking) and debate team for most of my high school career. My best memories of high school are travelling with these teams to compete all around the greater St. Louis area and the region. I am certain that without the broad education and the intensive training in public speaking that I received at Rosary High School, my life course would have been very different. What I value as my personal and professional success has come because of the exceptional intellectual training and the warm personal support I received from the faculty of Rosary High School.

