



## **Memorial Service June 18 for Professor Georgia Babladelis**

A memorial service will celebrate the life of longtime Cal State East Bay psychology professor Georgia Babladelis at 2 p.m. Thursday, June 18 in room 149 of the South Science building on the Hayward Campus of CSUEB.

Even though Babladelis, a member of the Cal State East Bay faculty for more than 30 years, passed away on May 28, she will continue to have a positive impact on the university's students for the foreseeable future. She established a scholarship endowment, the Georgia Babladelis Scholarship Fund for Re-entry Students, to encourage and support older students who return to the college classroom.

She joined the Cal State East Bay faculty in 1963 when, as she once said: "Psychology was still considered a man's domain."

Babladelis leaves a legacy of accomplishment in psychology and academia. She was founding editor of the international publication "Psychology of Women Quarterly," the first research journal devoted to the study of female thought and behavior. She also worked with other faculty members in helping develop CSUEB's women's studies program and played an integral part in the creation of the university's Nursing Department. The quarterly publication and the women's study program began in the early 1970s. Babladelis once said that the women's studies program was established with the understanding that it "will be successful only when it no longer needs to exist."



A few years after the women's studies program began, she was named to serve as United States director of research for a cross-cultural study of sex-related stereotypes and personal characteristics sponsored by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization).

In 1992, Babladelis was recognized as one of the "100 Outstanding Women in Psychology" during the American Psychological Association's centennial celebration.

Babladelis, who retired from fulltime teaching in 1994, liked to say, as colleagues recalled, that her fondest memories from 31 years of teaching at the university were of the times she worked closely with "lively, bright students who had a lot to offer and who accomplished a great deal." She also enjoyed teaching students how to evaluate research submitted for publication, often involving them in her study of women students re-entering college.

Colleagues were well aware of her devotion to Cal State East Bay students and

her commitment to supporting public education. From the early days of her teaching career, when she said she was inspired by former dean of students Joan Seavey Thomas, Babladelis maintained a special interest in older students who return to Cal State East Bay to earn college degrees. The Georgia Babladelis Scholarship will continue to be presented annually to a worthy returning student.

"This university has always been very supportive of the mature students making their way back," Babladelis said in 2005. "I've seen how these students, in particular, can have a more difficult time succeeding in the classroom. They're already holding down fulltime jobs while supporting their families. I've had first-hand contact with so many of these students, and I've come to admire the challenge they take on."

She was one of the first faculty members to join the CSUEB Heritage Society, made up of individuals who name the university as a beneficiary in their estate plan through a bequest, trust, life insurance policy, annuity, or pension plan.

"We will forever be indebted to dedicated faculty like Georgia Babladelis," said Mo Qayoumi, Cal State East Bay president. "Our students have benefited from Dr. Babladelis' outstanding wealth of knowledge, intelligence, soul, and financial commitment."

Babladelis earned a Ph.D. from the University of Colorado in 1960; a master's of arts degree from the University of California, Berkeley in 1957; and a bachelor's of arts from the University of Michigan in 1953.

Georgia Babladelis is survived by a sister, Helen Dickens of Centerville, Ind.; a brother, George Babladelis, of Manistique, Mich; and lots of nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, her family has asked that contributions be made to The Georgia Babladelis Fund in Nursing at California State University, East Bay, c/o University Advancement, 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd., WA-908, Hayward, CA 94542.

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