The Office of the Provost, in partnership with the Butler Center for Leadership Excellence, is pleased to announce a new Distinguished Women Scholars award to honor alumnae who earned a Purdue doctorate and have made significant scholarly contributions to their respective academic communities.

By recognizing our academic women of distinction, we also acknowledge and celebrate our faculty’s contributions to mentoring these successful scholars and recognize Purdue’s contribution to diversifying university faculty across the nation. At the same time, we symbolize to our undergraduate and graduate students the possibilities a Purdue doctorate enables. We hope the recipients will be a role model to all of our scholars in the making.

Each year we plan to honor up to four distinguished women scholars. I am writing to solicit your nominations for the first year cohort of honorees. The nomination criteria include an earned doctorate from Purdue and distinguished scholarly success within one’s chosen field. Recipients will be invited to campus March 3-4, 2011, to be honored as part of Purdue’s celebration of Women’s History Month. We will ask the home departments of the honorees to welcome back their alums and introduce them to current graduate and undergraduate students.

For this inaugural year, I am asking for no more than two nominations per college. Nominations should first be directed to the office of the appropriate academic dean, and are due from the colleges by Thursday, January 27, 2011. The nominations should include:

- a letter of nomination that outlines the nominee’s achievements;
- the nominee’s updated CV; and
- the names of two references who could speak to each nominee’s record of distinction.

I look forward to celebrating our notable women scholars and their remarkable achievements. Thank you in advance for participating in this important opportunity to recognize the contributions of Purdue trained women scholars.

For questions, please contact:
Beverly Davenport Sypher, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs
bdsypher@purdue.edu