

2013 Mary Turner Lane Award

Association for Women Faculty and Professionals

JACQUELYN DOWD HALL

The Mary Turner Lane Award for 2013 recognizes the accomplishments in behalf of women of Jacquelyn Dowd Hall, the Julia Cherry Spruill Professor of History. During her forty years as a faculty member at Carolina, Jacquelyn Hall has advocated for women in her research and professional leadership, her award-winning teaching, her mentoring of both undergraduate and graduate students, and her service to her profession and to the University.

By her scholarship, Hall changed the very concept of *history*, developing the methodology and best practices of a new kind of history that incorporates the experiences of women and workers and minorities into understanding the past. In 1973, fresh out of graduate school, Jacquelyn Hall founded the now world-famous Southern Oral History Program and directed it until 2011. Her influence as the “mother” of oral history and her insights into women’s contributions to human history have been recognized by many prestigious awards, including the National Humanities Medal presented by President Clinton in 1999 and election to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2011.

Hall has also been an inspirational and award-winning teacher. Testimonies from generations of students—from a professor at an Ivy League university to a 2012 honors graduate—describe Hall as “imparting the sheer delight that she feels doing history, conveying a sense of urgency about the lessons of the past, demonstrating meticulous research methods, and shaping students’ arguments with the most subtle of suggestions.”

Former students praise equally her faithful mentoring. One writes, “She lets her students grow up, transitioning her relationship with them as they move through the profession and their lives.” Furthermore, she incorporates them into an ongoing community. Messages from Jacquelyn Hall often have as their subject line “More Ripple Effects,” as she passes along news of the accomplishments of women in the Jacquelyn Hall network of support. The 2013 Mary Turner Lane Award recognizes the countless ripples that continue to reach women because of Jacquelyn Hall’s visionary, caring, loyal, and quiet leadership.