

Steppingblocks
SENIOR ADVISOR

Welcome
TO THE
TEAM

Karen DePauw

...
Vice President Emerita
and Dean Emerita for
Graduate Education
at Virginia Tech



Karen P. DePauw is Vice President Emerita and Dean Emerita for Graduate Education and tenured Professor of Sociology and Human Nutrition, Foods & Exercise at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. Her major accomplishments during her tenure include building a strong, diverse and inclusive graduate community; establishing the national award-winning innovative Graduate Life Center (GLC); and implementing the signature academic initiative known as Transformative Graduate Education (TGE), including the global perspectives and preparing the future professoriate programs.

DePauw has held several leadership roles in graduate education including President of the Council of Southern Graduate Schools (CSGS), and Chair of the Board of Directors of the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS). She is the inaugural recipient of the CGS Stewart Leadership Award for Graduate Education.

Dr. DePauw is an internationally recognized scholar in the fields of adapted physical activity, disability sport and disability studies. Her scholarship has focused on inclusion, ableism, social construction of body, ability and disability, and disability sport. Throughout her academic career, she has served in leadership positions for national and international associations and received numerous honors and awards.

Dr. DePauw earned the A.B. in Sociology from Whittier College, M.S. in Special Education from California State University, Long Beach, and a Ph.D. in Kinesiology from Texas Woman's University. Prior to her employment at Virginia Tech, she taught with the Los Angeles City and Los Angeles County Schools and held faculty positions at California State University – Los Angeles and Washington State University.