

# **Celebrating Women: A University of Minnesota Tradition**

Susan A. Hagstrum, Ph.D.

## **A Few Notable Milestones for University Women**

- ❖ 1875 -- Helen Mar Ely, the University's first woman graduate, earns her degree
- ❖ 1909 -- Professor Mariah Sanford is the first woman to deliver the commencement address
- ❖ 1909 -- The University opens the nation's first on-campus School of Nursing
- ❖ 1934 -- Ruth Winifred Howard becomes the nation's first African American woman to earn a Ph.D. in psychology
- ❖ 1954 -- University scientist Jane Leichsenring wins the prestigious Borden prize

## **Institutional Efforts**

- ❖ 1959-1960 -- Minnesota Plan I initiated
- ❖ 1988 -- Minnesota Plan II adopted and Commission on Women appointed
- ❖ 1998 -- Office for University Women established