Introducing
Dean Cheryl Achterberg
College of Education and Human Ecology

Innovation in Learning and Living
Cheryl Achterberg: A Dynamic Leader Experienced in Education and Human Ecology

On July 1, 2008, the College of Education and Human Ecology welcomed distinguished scholar and eminent academic leader Cheryl Achterberg, Ph.D., as the dean of our multifaceted program in education and human ecology.

Dr. Achterberg is uniquely suited to the role, having served at Iowa State University as the inaugural dean of the College of Human Sciences, which brought together education and family and consumer sciences.

With a Ph.D. in nutrition from Cornell University, she rose through the professorial ranks at the Pennsylvania State University. After becoming a full professor in 1996, she launched Penn State’s Schreyer Honors College. As founding dean, she guided it to national prominence.

Dr. Achterberg has significant experience as a human nutrition researcher with substantial funding from organizations such as the H.J. Heinz Foundation and the National Institutes of Health. She is an award-winning teacher and has garnered recognition for her scores of publications about nutrition, higher education, and research methodology. As an active consultant and program evaluator, she has served USAID/UNESCO and other prominent groups across the nation and around the globe.

“Our college is in the business of developing people: as teachers, as academics, as professionals, as community and family members, across all ethnicities and across the lifespan,” said Dean Achterberg. “We achieve our goal by harnessing the power of both education and human ecology. Our education experts advance learning to enhance minds and bodies. Our human ecology experts support healthy development and relationships, healthy nutrition, and healthy choices in a consumer world. Together, we solve complex problems of learning and living to transform our world.”

Ohio State’s College of Education and Human Ecology is ranked number 10 among public universities in US News & World Report’s 2009 edition of America’s Best Graduate Schools. Three of our graduate specializations rank in the top 5 and two are in the top 10 among public/private universities. Four rank in the top 20.