

## Lenore Blum

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Lenore Blum received her Ph.D. in mathematics from M.I.T. in 1968. She then went to UC Berkeley as a Postdoctoral Fellow and Lecturer in Mathematics. In 1973 she joined the faculty of Mills College where in 1974 she founded the Mathematics and Computer Science Department (serving as its Head or co-Head for 13 years). In 1979 she was awarded the first Letts-Villard Chair at Mills and in June 1999, on the 25th anniversary of the founding the Math/CS Department at Mills, she was awarded Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.

In 1988 Lenore joined the Theory Group of the newly formed International Computer Science Institute in Berkeley. In 1990 she was elected Vice President of the American Mathematical Society and from 1992 to 1996 she also served as Deputy Director of the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute. Lenore spent two years, 1996-1998, at the CityU of Hong Kong as Visiting Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science where she completed her book, [Complexity and Real Computation](#), with colleagues and co-authors Felipe Cucker, Mike Shub and Steve Smale.

In the fall of 1999, Lenore and her husband Manuel had the great good fortune to join their son Avrim on the faculty of the Computer Science Department at Carnegie Mellon where she is also co-Director on the NSF-ITR [ALADDIN](#) Center for ALgorithm ADaptation Dissemination and INtegration. The primary goal of ALADDIN is to improve the process of incorporating powerful algorithms into application domains.

Lenore is well known for her work in increasing the participation of girls and women in mathematics and scientific fields. She was instrumental in founding the Association for Women in Mathematics (serving as its President from 1975 to 1978), the Math/Science Network and its Expanding Your Horizons conferences for high school girls (serving as co-Director from 1975 to 1981) and served as co-PI for the Mills Summer Mathematics Institute for undergraduate women. At Carnegie Mellon she has been faculty advisor to the [Women@SCS](#) and a member of the President's Diversity Advisory Council.

Lenore is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In 2005 she received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring ([PAESMEM](#)).

**Areas of Expertise:** algorithms and applications, theory of computation and complexity over the reals, increasing the participation of girls and women in mathematics and computer science.