

Elizabeth Boylan

Program Director
Alfred P. Sloan Foundation



Elizabeth S. Boylan directs the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation's programs on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) Higher Education, including programs for the education and professional advancement of underrepresented groups and for the study and improvement of STEM student learning and performance. In 2014 she was elected to the Board of Directors of the Teagle Foundation.

Dr. Boylan joined the Sloan Foundation after 16 years at Barnard College where she served as Provost and Dean of the Faculty and professor of Biological Sciences. During her tenure, she led many efforts involved with faculty career enhancement, curriculum reform, international education, and capital projects. Among the major grants for which she was responsible were those from the Mellon Foundation for a Center of Excellence supporting both facility and programmatic improvements in the sciences and for a consortium of 23 liberal arts colleges that provided faculty development opportunities in research and teaching. From 1996 to 2000, she served on the Commission for Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. She was also a member of the Leadership Network for International Education of the American Council on Education and the Advisory Board of Project Kaleidoscope.

Prior to her work at Barnard, Boylan was associate provost for academic planning and programs at Queens College/CUNY. She was a tenured member of the biology faculty at Queens College and the CUNY Graduate Center. She served as Deputy Chair of Graduate Studies in Biology for four years, chaired of the Queens College Academic Senate for three years, and co-chaired University-wide efforts in program reform in science, engineering, technology and mathematics, and in secondary education. Research in her laboratory was supported by the National Cancer Institute and the American Federation for Aging Research, as well as University grants. She has served as a consultant for, among others, the National Cancer Institutes' Breast Cancer Task Force, the American Cancer Society's Review Committee on Prevention, Diagnosis, and Therapy, the National Science Foundation, the New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research, and various scientific journals.

A specialist in developmental biology and hormonal carcinogenesis, Boylan earned a Ph.D. in zoology/embryology from Cornell University and a bachelor's degree in biological sciences from Wellesley College. She was a pre-doctoral fellow at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole and a postdoctoral fellow in biochemistry and oncology at the University of Rochester Medical Center.