

Karen Klomparens

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Karen Klomparens has served as Dean of the Graduate School and Associate Provost for Graduate Education at Michigan State University since 1997. She is a Professor of Plant Biology and is on leave as Director of MSU's Center for Advanced Microscopy. With her graduate students, Dr. Klomparens published 60 peer-reviewed articles and 3 books on the topic of ultrastructural development of sporulating structures in fungi. Prior to becoming Assistant Dean for Graduate Student Welfare in 1994, Dr. Klomparens was on a Fulbright-supported sabbatical at Cambridge University. Dr. Klomparens' passions as a Graduate Dean focus on completion issues for doctoral students, interdisciplinary graduate education, and inclusive excellence. Klomparens and her colleagues developed a FIPSE (U.S. Department of Education) and Hewlett Foundation-supported program on "Setting Expectations and Resolving Conflicts between Graduate Students and Faculty." The program uses interest-based approaches to resolving conflicts and has been used in a variety of settings inside and outside of academe for the past 9 years. The Graduate School participates in a number of federally-funded initiatives such as the Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate and has an NSF-I-cubed initiative, Center for Academic and Future Faculty Excellence. MSU also participated in the Council of Graduate Schools' Ph.D. Completion Project and the Project on Scholarly Integrity. Dean Klomparens served a 2-year term as the Chair of the Big Ten (CIC) graduate deans group, 3 years on the Executive Committee and 5 years on the Board of Directors for the Council of Graduate Schools, 2 years on the Professional Science Master's Board of Directors, 2 years of service on the GRE Board, and 1 year on the Executive Committee of the Association of Graduate Schools (AAU).