CHESTNUT HILL, MA (February 2008) - Two endowed chairholders in the Lynch School of Education have been named recipients of the Distinguished Elder Award given by the National Multicultural Conference & Summit.

Dr. Anderson J. Franklin, Honorable David S. Nelson Professor at the Lynch School, and Dr. Janet E. Helms, Augustus Long Professor, have been selected for the award, which honors individuals for their outstanding life-long contributions to the advancement of multicultural psychology, and recognizes courageous pioneers who challenged existing paradigms within psychology and who blazed a path for multicultural researchers and practitioners.

They will be recognized at the next National Multicultural Conference & Summit, upcoming in New Orleans.

Dr. Franklin, author of *From Brotherhood to Manhood: How Black Men Rescue Their Relationships and Dreams from the Invisibility Syndrome*, focuses on understanding resilience and the psychological well being of African Americans, particularly men.

His work includes a study of Mississippi African-American male elders across their life spans, and, under a CCNY/Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Partnership grant, the study of the influence of resilience upon African Americans' health beliefs and behaviors in colon cancer screening.

Dr. Helms is director of The Institute for the Study and Promotion of Race and Culture at Boston College, and has written over sixty empirical and theoretical articles and four books on the topics of racial identity and cultural influences on assessment and counseling practice. She also has received the "Distinguished Career Contributions to Research" award from the Society for the Psychological Study of Ethnic Minority Issues.

###