

It is with a heavy heart and profound sadness that we share Cheryl Ann Koopman, Ph.D., Professor Emerita of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Stanford University School of Medicine, died May 14 following a fall that resulted in multiple injuries near her home in South Lake Tahoe. She was 68 years old.

Dr. Koopman was an expert in her field with advanced training in psychology, education, psychiatry, and political science from several leading research universities, including a B.A. in Psychology from the University of California, Berkeley, M.A. in Educational Psychology from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), and Ph.D. from the University of Virginia with double majors in Educational Psychology and Program Evaluation. She completed postdoctoral training fellowships at Harvard University and Columbia University.

Dr. Koopman was a nationally and internationally recognized academic scientist who made significant contributions to understanding stress and health in the social/political context. As a Professor Emerita, she remained active in research collaborations and mentoring following her retirement in 2015. She was a member of the faculty at Columbia University prior to joining Stanford University in 1992.

During her career, she published hundreds of peer-reviewed scholarly articles and book chapters. She was President of the International Society of Political Psychology, co-founded the Massachusetts Psychologists for Social Responsibility, and served on the Executive Committee of the New York Psychologists for Social Responsibility. Dr. Koopman was a beloved teacher and mentor to hundreds of students and trainees. She served as a Core Faculty member in the PGSP-Stanford Psy.D. Consortium and to honor her contributions, particularly as a dissertation mentor for 44 doctoral students, the program recently named their annual student dissertation award the “Cheryl Koopman Dissertation of the Year Award.”

Our sincere condolences to her husband Glen DeMaria, her stepdaughter, Shannon, stepson-in-law Neil Zawacki, her sister-in-law Jill DeMaria, her siblings, and the rest of her family and friends. She will be dearly missed.