



## **Carole Ayres Bisogni**

October 28, 1949 – November 15, 2014

Carole Ayres Bisogni was born in Jersey City, New Jersey and raised in northern New Jersey. At age sixteen, Professor Bisogni enrolled as an undergraduate at Cornell University to study human nutrition and food. This was the beginning of her long-term affiliation with Cornell University. At Cornell, she earned a B.S. with distinction and honors in Human Nutrition and Food in 1970, a M.S. in Foods and Nutrition in 1972, and a Ph.D. in Nutrition in 1976.

Professor Bisogni joined the Cornell faculty in November 1975 as an assistant professor in the Division of Nutritional Sciences with a joint appointment in the Institute of Food Science; she was promoted to associate professor in 1981 and to professor in 2000. In the early years on the faculty, she was responsible for Cornell Cooperative Extension education programs about consumer food issues including food safety, food product labeling, and seafood throughout New York State and beyond, as well as outreach to policy makers. With colleagues, she developed several award winning nutrition education programs including “Food for Health: The Carbohydrate Connection,” “Nutrition for Life,” and “In Touch Science: Food and Fabrics.” These programs included multi-media interventions for adults and youth that were implemented in supermarkets, schools, and after-school programs.

The challenges of her extension and outreach work led Professor Bisogni to develop a research program to strengthen the design and evaluation of these programs using social science theories and methods. In later years, her research program evolved to focus on understanding food choice—the personal, social, cultural and situational influences on human eating practices. With colleagues in the Food Choice Research Group at Cornell, she developed the Food Choice Process Model that considers the multifaceted and dynamic factors that shape food activities.

The Research Group produced over 50 publications in refereed journals about food choice. Professor Bisogni was passionate about engaging undergraduate students in food choice research, and many of her research articles were co-authored with undergraduates. In both 2001 and 2013, the Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior honored Professor Bisogni and her co-authors with its award for Best Article in of the *Journal Nutrition Education and Behavior*.

Throughout her academic career, Professor Bisogni was a strong supporter of and advocate for undergraduate students. This commitment was expressed in several academic appointments. From 1989 through 2002, she served as Associate Director of Academic Affairs in the Division of Nutritional Sciences. In this position, she led the revision of nutrition curriculum for undergraduate majors, the development of the new Division of Nutritional Sciences major in Human Biology, Health and Society, the initiation of the new nutrition major in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and enhanced the undergraduate advising program and honors program in the Division of Nutritional Sciences. For this work, Professor Bisogni received several awards including the Human Ecology Alumni Association/Kappa Omicron Nu Award for Excellence in Advising in 2002, the Merrill Presidential Outstanding Educator Recognition in 2003, and the Kendall S. Carpenter Memorial Advising Prize in 2004.

After a one year stint as Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the College of Human Ecology, Professor Bisogni was appointed to the position of Associate Dean in 2008, in which she served until her death in 2014. In this role she engaged in many initiatives that advocated for students, promoted innovative teaching, and enhanced academic standards. She played a critical role in establishing a research immersion program that provided undergraduate students with stipends to conduct research with faculty members over the summer. Early in her career (1978-1983) she taught the course, Consumer Food Issues. Later she co-taught the graduate course NS7030, Seminar in Nutritional Sciences. Most recently (2005- 2013), Professor Bisogni co-taught a large undergraduate course, NS 2450, Social Science Perspectives on Food and Nutrition with Professor Jeffery Sobal.

Professor Bisogni was a member of the graduate field of Nutrition and the graduate field of Food Science and Technology. During her academic career, she chaired the Special Committees of over 30 doctoral and masters students and served as a minor or field member for 33 graduate students. She was an outstanding university citizen, serving on many, many division, college and university committees, as well as, in positions in professional groups and organizations including the Institute of Food Technologists, the Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior, the National Academy of Sciences, and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Carole Ayres met James J. Bisogni, Jr. after he came from Lehigh University to Cornell University as a graduate student in Civil and Environmental Engineering (M.S. '70, Ph.D. '73). They were married in Anabel Taylor Hall in August 1971. James Bisogni joined the faculty in the College of Engineering and retired as professor emeritus in 2014. Carol and James have two sons who both attended Cornell University: Jared (M.P.S. '06) and Adam, a current doctoral student in molecular and integrative physiology in the College of Veterinary Medicine (B.S. '08). Carole Bisogni was broadly and deeply involved in the community of Cornell University, having been a student, faculty member, faculty spouse, and parent of Cornell students.

*Written by Christine Olson, chair; Malden Nesheim, Jeffery Sobal*