ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

ALUMNAE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2016





 $SARITA\ GUPTA$, $CLASS\ OF\ 1996$, we honor you today with the Alumnae Achievement Award. This award is presented to alumnae whose accomplishments and service to society exemplify the values and virtues set forth by the College.

Sarita, your dedication to social justice was born and fostered during your time at Mount Holyoke. As a student you worked as part of a coalition to advocate for greater diversity in the student body and curriculum and helped found the Asian American Sisters in Action organization. Upon graduation you were elected president of the United States Student Association and became a community activist and grassroots organizer for the Chicago chapter of Jobs with Justice.

Your passion and expertise earned you the position of executive director for the national Jobs with Justice organization, which works to increase workers' rights and shape a more equitable economy. As a result of your work, you have gained a reputation as an expert on the economic and political issues affecting working people, particularly low-wage earners. You've brought national attention to these issues through media appearances in the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times*, *Bloomberg*, *Politico*, and on MSNBC.

Your advocacy for economic and social justice for all individuals extends to your volunteer service. You serve on the boards or steering committees of numerous organizations, including the International Labor Rights Forum, the Institute for Policy Studies, the General Service Foundation, and the US Social Forum.

Just as secretary of labor and 1902 Mount Holyoke graduate Frances Perkins worked tirelessly to change the standards of labor in the US, you have worked to build a more equitable economic system for America's workers.

Sarita, for your high level of sustained contributions to public policy around workers' rights, the Alumnae Association is honored to present you with the Mount Holyoke Alumnae Achievement Award on this, your twentieth reunion.