Dr. Nilufer Medora
Family and Consumer Sciences

Born in Bombay, India, Dr. Nilufer Medora is a global educator who joined CSULB’s Department of Family and Consumer Sciences in 1986 as a lecturer, attaining full professorship in 1995.

She developed and coordinates CSULB’s Family Life Education Program, which provides an academic and professional background for work with children, adults, couples, and families and is one of only two certified undergraduate programs in California.

In 1998, Dr. Medora’s passion for international education led her to create the “International Families: Families in Cross-Cultural Perspectives” course, examining important family life cycle changes for ethnic groups in America and internationally. Since 2007, she has conducted three short-term study abroad programs comparing children and families in New Zealand and the United States. She was CSULB’s faculty representative for CSU’s London Semester Consortium in 2008, participated in the Spring 2010 “Semester at Sea” program and plans to set sail again this summer.

Dr. Medora’s campus leadership includes service on the International Education and Scholarly and Creative Activities committees and in the Partners for Success program as a faculty mentor. In 2010, she received CSULB’s 2010 Most Inspirational Professor Award awarded to her by her students.

On the national level, Dr. Medora served on the Journal of Marriage and Family Review and the International Journal of Sociology of the Family editorial boards. She is a member of several national organizations, including the National Council on Family Relations and the Society for Research on Adolescence. While making community presentations on Indian marriage practices and family life, she started “Pennies for Slum Children in India” to raise money for books and school supplies for children attending a parochial school in one of the worst slum areas in Western India.

Dr. Medora is an expert in cross-cultural research who received her doctorate in family studies from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln in 1983. Her research focuses on the areas of teenage pregnancy and parenting, human sexuality, adolescent loneliness, cross-cultural family studies, dating, and mate selection. Dr. Medora also holds two masters degrees, in Human Development and Family Studies, and Child Development and Family Studies.