The Minnesota State University Honors Program is proud to present guest lecturer Dr. Trudy Banta. Her lecture, *Valuing Assessment: A National Perspective*, will start at 7:00pm on Tuesday, April 19, 2011 in Wissink Hall 285. The principal value of outcomes assessment in higher education is found in the guidance assessment information, which provides curriculum improvement, instruction, and student services. However, increasing national pressures for evidence of student learning have placed additional importance on assessment's capacity to demonstrate accountability. The lecture will discuss and include examples of assessment’s use in fulfilling both improvement and accountability promises in higher education.

Dr. Banta is a Senior Advisor to the Chancellor for Academic Planning and Evaluation and a Professor of Higher Education at Indiana University-Purdue University in Indianapolis. Currently, she is appointed to the National Institute on Learning Outcomes Assessment Advisory Panel, and has received honors including the Sidney S. Suslow Award of the Association for Institutional Research for significant scholarly contributions to higher education, the Senior Scholar Award of the American College Personnel Association, and the IUPUI Outstanding Woman Faculty Leader (Senior Category).

In addition, Dr. Banta has consulted with faculty and administrators, and has given invited addresses on the topic of outcomes assessment in 47 states, and at national conferences worldwide. She has also developed and coordinated 22 national assessment conferences in the U.S. and 15 international conferences throughout various countries.

A gifted scholar and teacher, she has written more than 200 articles and reports, written and edited 17 published volumes on assessment, contributed 27 chapters to other published works, and is the founding editor of *Assessment Update*, a published bi-monthly periodical that won a national award for overall excellence in 2003.