Professor Lena Dominelli

Professor of Applied Social Sciences,
Durham University, UK

Professor Lena Dominelli holds a Chair in Applied Social Sciences in the School of Applied Social Sciences and is Co-Director at the Institute of Hazards, Risk and Resilience Research at Durham University where she Heads the Programme on Vulnerability and Resilience. She headed a Major ESRC funded project entitled ‘Internationalising Institutional and Professional Practices’; and worked as CI on a significant EPSRC funded project entitled, ‘Climate Change, the Built Infrastructure and Health and Social Care Provisions for Older People’; and on a major NERC funded project, ‘Earthquake Without Frontiers’. Alongside the wealth of experience she has had as a university educator and researcher, she has worked in social services, probation and community development. She has published widely in social work, social policy and sociology. Several of these are classics and have been translated into many languages. Her most recent publication is Green Social Work (Polity Press, 2012). She is recognised as a leading figure in social work education globally. Professor Dominelli was elected President of the International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW) from 1996 to 2004, and currently chairs the IASSW Committee on Disaster Interventions and Climate Change and is representing the social work profession at the United Nations discussions on climate change, including those to held in Cancun, Mexico; Durban, South Africa; and Doha, Qatar. She has also been the recipient of various honours including a Medal in 2002 for her contribution to social work given by the Social Affairs Committee of the French Senate, an honorary doctorate in 2008 from the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Durban, South Africa, an honorary professorship from East China University of Science and Technology in 2011, and the Katherine A Kendall Award from the International Association of Schools of Social Work in 2012.