

## **Biographical Sketch of Dr. Clara Yu**

The 14<sup>th</sup> President of the Monterey Institute of International Studies, Dr. Clara Yu was born in China, and educated in Taiwan and the United States. She holds a B.A. degree in English from the National Taiwan University and a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the University of Illinois. She has taught at the University of Maryland and Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont, and served as a consultant in artificial intelligence in the Washington, D.C., area.

In 1993, Dr. Yu was appointed Vice President for Languages at Middlebury College. In that capacity, she restructured the operation of the Middlebury Language Schools and Schools Abroad, and designed a rigorous three-year B.A. program combining an international studies core curriculum and regional concentration with advanced language requirement and extended study abroad. This program became the prototype of the College's highly acclaimed International Studies major.

In 1996, with funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Dr. Yu launched the Center for Educational Technology (CET) at Middlebury and oversaw the successful completion of its first major project, a five-year initiative to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of language instruction through the use of technology. In 2001, with additional funding from the Mellon Foundation, Dr. Yu founded the National Institute for Technology and Liberal Education (NITLE), which serves as a catalyst for innovation and collaboration for 81 liberal arts colleges as they seek to make effective use of technology for teaching, learning, scholarship, and information management.

Among NITLE's services are college presidential technology briefings, new learning space planning, the development of an extensive web resource for teaching about the Arab world, and numerous initiatives that promote collaboration in the development of innovative programs, such as "Geographic Information Systems across the Curriculum," media studies across institutions, and the educational use of social software, handheld devices, and game technology.

Dr. Yu's most recent research project is the development of a search engine that uses efficient algorithms and semantic analysis to process large amounts of unstructured data, facilitating the exploration, visualization, and management of information for scholarly purposes.

A frequent speaker at conferences on higher education, Dr. Yu has served on technology task forces and consulted for educational institutions in the U.S. and abroad. Her extensive list of scholarly publications and presentations covers a wide array of subjects, including information technology, liberal arts education, language pedagogy, natural language processing and artificial intelligence, international studies, Chinese literature, and Chinese culture. She also enjoys writing poetry and short stories.