



DR. BURTON BLATT

1983 Advocacy and Professional Leadership Award for fostering a generation of scholars with the commitment and sensitivity to seek a better world for the mentally retarded and developmentally disabled.

Dr. Burton Blatt, Centennial Professor and Dean of Syracuse University's School of Education, is a special friend of YAI.

In recent years, Dr. Blatt has served as keynote speaker at two of YAI's most successful and prestigious national professional conferences—"From the 60's Into the 80's: An International Assessment of Attitudes and Services for the Developmentally Disabled," which was cosponsored by the United Nations; and "Normalization: A Redefinition in the Context of Reality," which was cosponsored by the President's Committee on Mental Retardation. Because of the tremendous excitement which he creates, Dr. Blatt is constantly in demand to speak at conferences, serve on advisory boards, and contribute articles.

One of the most distinguished and influential proponents of community-based facilities for mentally retarded and developmentally disabled people, Dr.

Blatt has advocated for the rights of the mentally retarded, and has lectured and written extensively about the abuses which take place in institutions. His numerous publications include: *In and Out of Mental Retardation: Essays on Educability, Disability and Human Policy*; *Abuses and Reformation of Public Policy*; and *Christmas in Purgatory: A Photographic Essay in Mental Retardation*.

Dr. Blatt is the recipient of the "Outstanding Contribution to the Field of Mental Retardation Award" from the New York Association of Teachers of the Mentally Handicapped; the "Humanitarian Award" from the American Association of Mental Deficiency; the "Annual Award" from the Massachusetts Psychological Association; as well as many other honors.

YAI is extremely proud to present Dr. Blatt with our Advocacy and Professional Leadership Award.
