**Allena K. Opper** is a Professor of Physics at The George Washington University and has been chair of the Department since 2010. She earned her PhD from Indiana University in 1991and received a BS from the Colorado School of Mines in 1983. She served as an NSF Nuclear Physics Program Director from 2008 to 2010, and is currently on the Program Advisory Committee for the COSY Synchrotron and the National Advisory Committee of the Institute for Nuclear Theory. Professor Opper’s research focuses on experimental studies of subatomic and few body physics exploiting polarization phenomena and fundamental symmetries to investigate manifestations of quark effects, the substructure of the nucleon, and tests of the Standard Model. Her most recent investigations include precision measurements of parity violating observables. Professor Opper is committed to introducing undergraduate students to research and has mentored nearly 15 undergraduate students.