John Doris was professor emeritus of human development and founding director of the Family Life Development Center (FLDC)* in Cornell's College of Human Ecology. A member of the Cornell faculty since 1963, Doris served as director of the FLDC from its establishment in 1974 until his retirement and appointment as professor emeritus in 1993, though he continued to work on center programs until his death.

Under Doris’ leadership, the FLDC established a Resource Center for Child Abuse and Neglect as well as for Foster Care and Adoption, and the New York State Child Protective Services Training Institute, the first of its kind in the country dedicated to providing basic and advanced training to child protective workers and supervisors.

Four other major programs inaugurated under his leadership of the FLDC continue today and have worldwide impact include: the Residential Child Care Project to prevent abuse and increase the quality of care in residential settings; the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect to ensure that researchers have access to federally funded research data; the Internet-based Child Abuse Prevention Network, a worldwide resource to apply information technology to child abuse prevention; and the Military Projects, to prevent child maltreatment and domestic violence in families connected to the armed forces and help family members prepare for the stress of deployment.

Doris also directed the center while it was instrumental in developing the private, nonprofit New York State Federation of Task Forces on Child Abuse and Neglect. The largest advocacy organization for maltreated children in New York state, the federation, now known as Prevent Child Abuse New York, is affiliated with the National Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse.

Doris graduated magna cum laude from the College of the City of New York and earned a Ph.D. in child clinical psychology from Yale University. From 1958 to 1963, he was chief psychologist in the Yale Child Study Center and an assistant professor in Yale’s department of psychology before he joined the Cornell faculty where he served terms as director of the graduate program and associate chair and was an active and dedicated mentor of many graduate students (as well as newly hired faculty), introducing a graduate curriculum around individual testing and assessment and directing graduate training in psychopathology.

*On 7/1/11 the FLDC and the Bronfenbrenner Life Course Center merged to form the Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research.
Jane Waldfogel is the Compton Foundation Centennial Professor of Social Work for the Prevention of Children’s and Youth Problems, Columbia University School of Social Work and a visiting professor at the Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion at the London School of Economics. Waldfogel received her Ph.D. in public policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. She has written extensively on the impact of public policies on child and family well-being. Her books include: Britain’s War on Poverty (Russell Sage Foundation, 2010); Steady Gains and Stalled Progress: Inequality and the Black-White Test Score Gap (Russell Sage Foundation, 2008); What Children Need (Harvard University Press, 2006); Securing the Future: Investing in Children from Birth to College (Russell Sage Foundation, 2000); and The Future of Child Protection: How to Break the Cycle of Abuse and Neglect (Harvard University Press, 1998). Her current research includes studies of work-family policies, improving the measurement of poverty, and understanding social mobility across countries.

To support the John Doris Memorial Lecture Series, contributions may be made to Cornell University, earmarked for the John Doris Memorial Lecture Series. Please send to: Attention: J. Eckenrode Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research College of Human Ecology Cornell University, Beebe Hall Ithaca, NY 14853

Memorial contributions can also be directed to: The John L. Doris Child Maltreatment Prevention Fund Prevent Child Abuse New York 134 South Swan Street Albany, NY 12210

www.preventchildabuse.ny.org

The fund will be used to advance training and outreach to support the use of research evidence in providing programs for parents and other adults that reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect.

The Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research (BCTR) is named for the world-renowned developmental psychologist Urie Bronfenbrenner, a co-founder of the national Head Start program, who died in 2005. The BCTR was formed July 1, 2011 with the merger of two longstanding Cornell centers: the Family Life Development Center and the Bronfenbrenner Life Course Center. The mission of the new center is to expand, strengthen, and speed the connections between cutting-edge research and the design, evaluation, and implementation of policies and practices that enhance human development, health, and well being. The new emphasis on translational research is a means to more closely link the twin missions of research and outreach within the College of Human Ecology. The new Bronfenbrenner Center will bridge the gap between research and practice. Too often, practitioners view research as esoteric and irrelevant, while researchers perceive application as trivial and unscientific. Many programs intended to benefit children, youth, elders, and families are not scientifically tested, and insights from basic research are rarely used systematically to guide the development of new programs. When research is translated into practice, the process is often too slow and unsystematic. Translational research is intended to address such problems, and this is where the BCTR will make unique contributions.