Recognizing thirty years of distinguished service in the YITP, twenty of those as Staff Associate to the director, the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Professional Service has been awarded to Betty Gasparino. The Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activity is a SUNY-wide award intended to recognize consistently outstanding scholarly and creative productivity of its faculty.

The success of a research institute requires more than brilliant faculty. Its true engine is a blend of administrative expertise and the ability to turn procedure into facilitation.

Betty joined the YITP as an Administrative Assistant in 1987, and was promoted to Assistant to the Director in 1999, on the retirement of her predecessor, Catherine Turpin. Over the years she has maintained a professional climate of support and cooperation for everyone who has visited or worked at the Institute. She also took a leadership role in the success of the early Simons Summer Workshops in Mathematics and Physics, starting in 2003. These workshops eventually led to the establishment of the Simons Center for Geometry and Physics, a process in which she also played an important part on the administrative side.

Betty Gasparino’s influence has also been throughout the world through her impact on the lives of students and postdocs whose careers were nurtured at Stony Brook.

This year the YITP is doubly proud to have two of its core members, Elizabeth Gasparino and Warren Siegel, recognized by the SUNY Chancellor.