Joann Roskoski received a BA in Bacteriology from Douglass College in 1969, a Masters in Ecology from Rutgers University in 1971 and her doctorate from Yale University in Forest Ecology in 1977. From 1977 through 1983, she studied tropical-cropping systems in Mexico first as a Rockefeller postdoc, then as a Research Associate with a Mexican research Institute and then at the University of Arizona. From 1983 through 1988, she was director of research for an international agricultural research program at the University of Hawaii. After managing a forestry grants program at the National Research Council (1988-89) for 2 years, she came to NSF in 1989 where she ran the Ecology Program, was Deputy Director for the Division of Environmental Biology, and is now the Executive Officer for the Directorate for Biological Sciences.