Grace I. Kunz, Iowa State University, is especially recognized by her colleagues as a leader in merchandising research, teaching, and theory development, and has a number of publications and presentations to her credit, including two texts, Apparel Manufacturing: Sew Products Analysis (with Ruth Glock) and Merchandising: Theory, Principles, and Practice. Grace has held many positions in ITAA, and is well known for her leadership in developing core competencies that helped in the organization’s strategic planning. She has also been recognized at the university, in industry, and at national levels for efforts in curriculum reform, especially in the integration of computer technology into the classroom. She has also been at the forefront in the development of an interface between educators and business and industry professionals.

Grace has earned the respect and admiration of many of her colleagues for her “….endless striving for perfection, her utter delight in sharing, her remarkable good nature...that steel trap she has for a mind...the fresh perspectives she brings to issues, her passion for right and fairness, and her generosities in helping others do better than they would otherwise do.”