Definer of ‘sexual harassment’ as a legal term to speak on campus

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Catharine MacKinnon is an advocate for gender equality and theorizes, litigates on sexual harassment, rape, pornography and prostitution. (Photo by Gal Hermoni)
“Professor MacKinnon pioneered the legal claim for sexual harassment, created ordinances recognizing pornography as a civil rights violation, and has advocated for models for abolishing prostitution,” said Jancy Hoeffel, Catherine D. Pierson Professor of Law at Tulane Law School. “Just as one example of her impactful litigation, she represented Bosnian women survivors of Serbian genocidal sexual atrocities, winning a $745 million award and the first legal recognition of rape as an act of genocide.”

“MacKinnon’s special gift of reframing feminist issues and translating that conceptual analysis into legal doctrine and policy is especially welcome today as we come to understand that universities must lead the way to end sexual assault on campus, to protect students’ civil rights, to equal educational opportunity,” said Sally J. Kenney, executive director of the Newcomb College Institute.