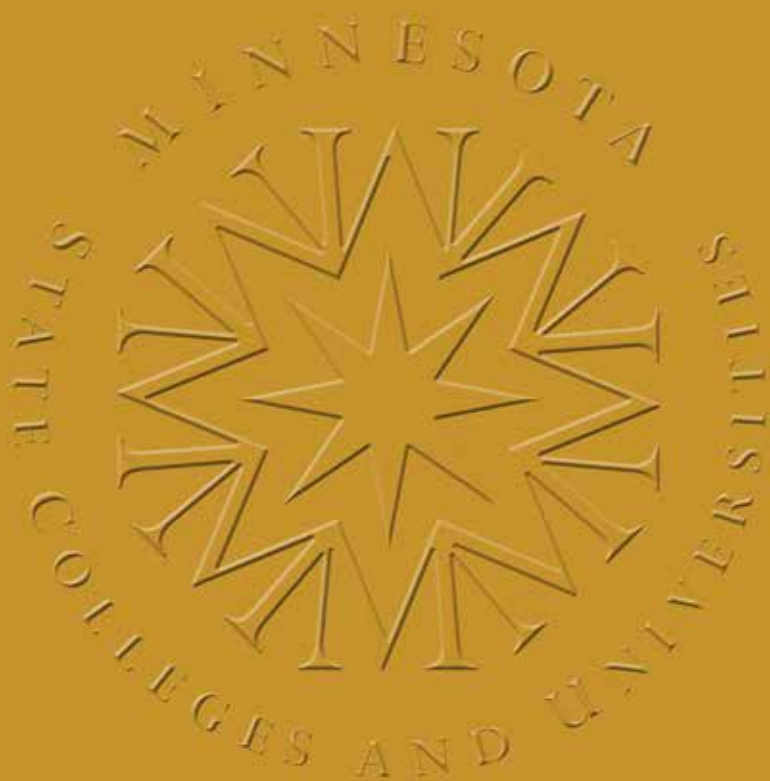


WE **EDUCATE**
MINNESOTA.

WE MAKE
IT **WORK.**

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system is an Equal Opportunity employer and educator.



**CELEBRATING
EXCELLENCE**

2015

CELEBRATING
EXCELLENCE

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES AWARDS
FOR EXCELLENCE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2015

THE DOUBLETREE BY HILTON
HOTEL ATRIUM
411 MINNESOTA STREET
SAINT PAUL



LUNCHEON AND AWARDS CEREMONY

11:30 A.M. — 1:15 P.M.

The Board of Trustees Awards for Excellence are system-level honors conferred annually in the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system to recognize professional achievement and to encourage the ongoing pursuit of excellence.

Music • Mitsuyo Baumer (piano) prelude/background music; Kayla Coffland (vocals), students at Anoka-Ramsey Community College; Melissa Bergstrom (piano), faculty member at Anoka-Ramsey Community College

Emcee • Cathy Wurzer

Welcome • Chancellor Steven Rosenstone and Board of Trustees Chair Thomas Renier

Recognition of Professional Excellence Award for Administrative Service Faculty Nominees • Board of Trustees Academic and Student Affairs Committee Chair Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Chancellor Rosenstone

Presentation of the Professional Excellence Award for Administrative Service Faculty • Chair Anderson Kelliher, Chancellor Rosenstone

Recognition of Outstanding Educators • Chair Anderson Kelliher, Chancellor Rosenstone and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs John O'Brien

Presentation of the Educator of the Year Awards • Chair Anderson Kelliher, Chancellor Rosenstone and Senior Vice Chancellor O'Brien

Closing • Senior Vice Chancellor O'Brien

PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE FACULTY

The award is an honor bestowed upon university service faculty to acknowledge and reward exceptional individual professional accomplishment, and to encourage ongoing excellence, in the key roles that service faculty fulfill at our system's universities. They are responsible for advising and counseling students, for the recruitment, retention, and placement of students: for residential life programming, facilitation of student groups and student leadership, and other involvement in university and community activities. This is the first year the award is being bestowed.

"I'm excited for this formal recognition by the board of the dedicated work of our university administrative and service faculty. This event highlights their powerful impact in academic advising, residence life, and so many activities that support student life, growth, and development."

*— John O'Brien, Senior Vice Chancellor
for Academic and Student Affairs*

Selection Criteria

The Professional Excellence Award for Administrative Service Faculty Review Committee evaluated each nominee in the following areas:

- **Exceptional work performance:** The nominee should demonstrate excellence in professional activities within and beyond the parameters of the job description. The ideal nominee fulfills the position's professional requirements in a creative and innovative fashion while demonstrating flexibility and adaptability to institutional and/or system needs. Consideration should be given to capabilities and accomplishments in the areas of leadership, decision-making and problem-solving. Evidence in this category includes, but is not limited to, professional recognitions, initiation of program ideas, development of proposals, and committee activities.
- **Advancement of the university mission:** The nominee should advance the mission of his or her home university and the campus within the context of the campus' mission and core values of teaching, research, and public service. There should be an explanation of the work of the individual and the impact of that work.
- **Expertise, creative achievement and professional development:** Professional Excellence nominees should be professionals whose subject-matter knowledge is evident in their use of well-regarded and current knowledge and practices in their work. Also describe your ongoing professional development as it relates to professional pursuits.
- **Contribution to student growth and development:** Nominees should demonstrate high achievement in this area through evidence of excellence in their service to students.

System Board of Trustees Professional Excellence Award for Administrative Service Faculty Review Committee

Sarah Olcott	Winona State University
Wanda Overland	St. Cloud State University
Wendy Robinson	Academic and Student Affairs
Matthew Rubel	Minnesota State University Student Association
Michael Sharp	St. Cloud State University



Shahzad Ahmad

*Director for Multicultural Student Services
St. Cloud State University*

Shahzad Ahmad's name has become synonymous with the Multicultural Student Services center that he has directed at St. Cloud State University for over 20 years. Under Ahmad's leadership, MSS has provided a wealth of services, ranging from leadership development and tutoring to collaboration with campus and community leaders that fosters successful academic and social experiences for students of color

and underrepresented students. His colleagues, students, and president praise Ahmad for consistently stretching the reach of MSS and the university as a whole. St. Cloud State is, they say, a much more diverse and inclusive place because of the accomplishments of Shahzad Ahmad.

Ahmad received his bachelor of arts in biomedical science and a master of science in international economics from St. Cloud State University. He began working at the university in 1989 in Minority Student Programs. Since becoming director of MSS in 1995, Ahmad has creatively partnered with others across campus to increase the recruitment and retention of students of color, playing a central role in efforts to create a campus climate where underrepresented students can thrive.

Ahmad has had a central hand in the creation and maintenance of a wide variety of programs and initiatives, including the Advanced Placement Program (a summer bridge program) and the multicultural tutoring program. He provides active support for a myriad of student organizations, and offers distinctive academic advising and registration days for students of color as well as "SCSU Complete," designed to engage and help students of color to finish their baccalaureate degrees. Ahmad's commitment is broad and individualized: he cares about each student's academic, social, and personal development.

Although Ahmad is "SCSU through and through," his contributions extend well beyond the campus. He has served two terms as the state president for the Minnesota State University Association for Administrative and Service Faculty, and on multiple committees within the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. He played a leadership role in the development and implementation of the annual Power in Diversity Leadership Conference, which in six years has grown to welcome nearly 600 students from 30 different colleges and universities. He has advanced the university's internationalization by recruiting more international students to SCSU, while also expanding study-abroad opportunities. One distinctive program he helped to create is a unique partnership with Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. Begun for SCSU students and staff, the

opportunities for study and work at NMMU have now been extended to students from other schools in Minnesota.

Ahmad's achievements, particularly in the area of the internationalization of the university, have been recognized on many levels and he has shared his expertise as a scholar and practitioner in local, state, national and international venues.

REVIEWER COMMENTS

Work Performance Innovation and partnerships are hallmarks of Ahmad's work strategies. His success can be measured in the significant increase in enrollment of students of color at SCSU: from 5.4% to 15.6% in the past ten years. Ahmad forges partnerships with career services, financial aid, the bookstore, and business services to increase retention of and improve services for students of color. Ahmad says, "through collaboration with many offices and academic departments, we were successful in assisting many students to graduate and many more are now on track to graduate."

Contribution to Student Growth and Development Ahmad has worked consistently and energetically both to increase the population of students of color and international students at SCSU and to provide all students with the opportunities to grow and develop through study abroad options, diversity conferences, and participation in workshops and programs. Ahmad is creative and tenacious when it comes to ensuring that SCSU is a "receptive, welcoming, and helpful environment for all students, particularly students of color." Ahmad connects with individual students, who are grateful for his "open door" policy, and works on a broader institutional level to ensure that SCSU is an institution where all students can be challenged and supported.

Expertise, Creative Achievement and Professional Development Ahmad approaches his work through an unorthodox lens. His inventive vision and success with non-traditional funding sources have led to creative programming and resulted in significantly increased recruitment and retention rates. Throughout his 26 years at St. Cloud State, he has served on numerous advisory boards and professional organizations. He has developed, implemented and coordinated Study Abroad programs that have been sustained at SCSU for over 15 years.

Advancement of the University Mission Ahmad's portfolio illustrates his dedication to developing creative and innovative strategies across perceived silos to advance the mission of the university. His dedication to building partnerships across schools, colleges, and divisions pervades his work. The strong commitment to internationalization is driven by his belief that this is "one of the most remarkable cultural-sharing opportunities we can make available to all involved and to further understanding among cultures".

NOMINEES FOR THE PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE FACULTY

These outstanding nominees are recognized for the extraordinary service they provide at their universities and to Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. Comments were provided by colleagues, presidents and community supporters.

Elizabeth Evert Karnes

*Managing Director, Roland Dille Center for the Arts
Minnesota State University Moorhead*

This adaptable, creative arts center director receives high praise from students, administrators and community organizers for her imagination and artistic ability. Evert Karnes's exemplary talents were showcased during a recent Minnesota gubernatorial debate and MSUM presidential inauguration.



Michelle Frenzel

*Registrar
Bemidji State University*

Known for generating new ideas and continuous improvement, Frenzel led a combined services transition at her institution. She orchestrated a seamless transition while advocating for employee needs, and continually holds student success as litmus test for her decisions. Frenzel is a master of collaboration.



Linda Meidl

*Student Relations Coordinator, College of Business
Minnesota State University, Mankato*

Through her work as a student relations coordinator, Meidl is recognized for exceptional advising techniques, knowledge of credit transfer protocol and campus and system policy development. A statewide leader in the adoption of Transferology, she is a determined advocate who is constantly striving to benefit students.



Linda Nelson

*Director, Academic Commons
Southwest Minnesota State University*

In her role as director of the academic commons, Nelson has demonstrated innovation and flexibility in providing academic support to all SMSU students. Her work in the Educational Opportunity Program has afforded her the chance to work closely with at-risk students, an opportunity she describes as a privilege.



Jillian Quandt

*Associate Director, Tutoring Services
Winona State University*

Recognized as a state leader in supplemental instruction, Quandt developed effective and innovative ways to create a tutoring culture at WSU by dramatically increasing available hours, number of tutors and delivery modes. Her vigorous history of publications, grants and presentations has advanced her profession and the university's mission.



THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

The Board of Trustees Educator of the Year Award for Excellence in Teaching was established in 2007. The Board of Trustees bestows the award upon faculty within the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system to acknowledge and reward exceptional professional accomplishment, and to encourage ongoing excellence in teaching. The award proclaims, on behalf of the entire system, the Board of Trustees' pride in the dedication and accomplishment of our faculty, who provide instruction that prepares Minnesota college and university students for their professional, scholarly, and civic lives. This year, presidents named 35 Outstanding Educators in nomination for the award.

"It is always a grand day. Even in my retirement, I'm delighted that what began so many years ago in conversation continues...and without having lost any of its luster and importance. In fact, both have grown."

— *Ray Anshel, Excellence in Teaching Award Design Committee (2005-2006) and English Instructor, Normandale Community College (1970-2007)*

"Reading through each of the nominees' materials really touched me and gave me the desire to attend a class taught by these educators. The passion and dedication they have for their work jumped off the page and into my heart."

— *Kerrie Maleski, Minnesota State College Student Association and Board of Trustees Review Committee*

Selection Criteria

The Board of Trustees Educator of the Year Award for Excellence in Teaching program evaluates each nominee in the following areas:

- Content expertise and professional growth
- Teaching strategies and materials
- Assessment of student learning and performance
- Service to students, profession, institution, system

Nominations were made by students, faculty peers, or staff, and evaluated by a campus review committee before Outstanding Educator nomination packets were submitted to the Senior Vice Chancellor. At the system level, a committee employed a rubric of detailed criteria in reading and discussing Outstanding Educator portfolios, and made final recommendations of four Educator of the Year recipients to Senior Vice Chancellor O'Brien. Those recommendations were reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees.

System Board of Trustees Award for Excellence in Teaching Review Committee

Adenuga Atewologun	Riverland Community College
Fran Bieganek	Anoka-Ramsey Community College
Joan Bloemendaal-Gruett	Pine Technical and Community College
Julie Daniels	Century College
Ambrosia Harkins	Minnesota State College Student Association, St. Cloud Technical and Community College
L. Hazareesingh	Mesabi Range College
Michael Janke	Information Technology Systems
Linda Kingston	Saint Paul College
Becca Larson	Minnesota State College Student Association, Hennepin Technical College
Craig Larson	North Hennepin Community College
Kimberly Lynch	Academic and Student Affairs
Kerrie Maleski	Minnesota State College Student Association, Anoka Technical College
Joe Mulford	Academic and Student Affairs
Peggy Rejto	Normandale Community College
Rik Stirling	Hennepin Technical College



Victoria Hutson

Instructor of Art

Lake Superior College

Few of Victoria Hutson's students plan to make art their career choice. However, nearly all leave her classes with greater skills, knowledge, and awareness of their own creative potential. While providing the setting for students to learn, apply, and integrate the knowledge and skills necessary for practicing art, her courses also address the social and personal needs of the students, including learning about oneself

and others, developing new emotions, interests, and values, and becoming self-directed learners.

Hutson has a master of arts in visual arts with a specialization in art education from the University of Wisconsin, and a bachelor of arts from the College of Saint Benedict with majors in both art and biology. She is a believer in and exemplar of life-long learning. She has engaged in a wide variety of professional development, including courses in online digital arts and environment design for games from the Computer Graphics Society in Australia. As a sabbatical project in 2009, she created 122 videos and 26 flash presentations for use in her online courses, designed according to eight multimedia guidelines that had been shown to increase student learning. She also developed a multimedia instructional guide for other instructors.

One of Hutson's greatest strengths as an educator is her broad skill and expertise in many areas of art, including both two- and three-dimensional media. With more than 32 years of teaching experience, she has instructed students in drawing, painting, digital painting, ceramics, digital and traditional photography, printmaking, art appreciation and art history. Her students know they are learning from a master artist, while they also learn that every one of them is capable of producing quality art. She keeps a student gallery of art created by current and former students, and her students tell her it is motivating—"one of the best parts of the course."

Hutson's goal as an educator is to create learning experiences that result in significant and lasting changes in the lives of her students. Many of her students' testimonials echo what one said when he called one of her courses "the most influential class I have ever taken. I leave this class feeling capable of so much more."

REVIEWER COMMENTS

Content Expertise and Professional Growth Hutson has presented at workshops on critical thinking, instructional technologies and art at the state and national levels and has several articles published in various educational journals. To stay current, she has taken courses such as environment design for games and an online digital art course. An accomplished artist, she has had several art exhibits in northern Minnesota and has received several awards and honors, including the Award for Innovative Excellence in Teaching, Learning and Technology at the 20th International Conference on College Teaching and Learning.

Teaching Strategies and Materials Hutson makes it a point to personally know her students—not only their demographics, but also their prior experiences in art. She then uses this information to design lessons that build upon their specific abilities and skill levels. The extensive library of instructional videos that she created facilitates and enhances her students' learning, guiding their progress step by step. She creates detailed checklists that students use as they produce their own work and critique other students' work. She motivates and inspires students by displaying their "before" and "after" works of art.

Standard for Assessment of Student Learning and Performance Ever since the word "assessment" was introduced to Hutson during a Teaching for Thinking Conference in 1994, she has been actively assessing her students' work. "Show me" assessments are used to gauge students' level of skill and understanding, and a photo grading rubric is used in digital photograph courses, with examples of "good," "acceptable" and "needs work" photographs. Writing assignments also are used to assess student skills. Hutson has been a member of the college's Student Academic Achievement Committee for several years, and has published several articles on the topic.

Service to Students, Profession, Institution, System Instrumental in developing the college's associate in fine arts degree, Hutson has created new courses in digital photography, digital painting and art history. Her service to the college includes acting as a mentor to new faculty members, serving on hiring and standing committees, and working to expand students' global competence by coordinating Global Awareness Photography Displays. Over the past year, she has done extensive work in the campus's glaze research and development area. A leader in the college's e-learning growth, Hutson was the first faculty member to develop studio art courses for online delivery and has been teaching online courses since 2001. She is a longtime member of the Online Peer Review Team and has presented numerous workshops on online instruction, digital drawing and painting.



Elizabeth Longley

Instructor of Chemistry

Normandale Community College

Betsy Longley is truly committed to knowing and supporting her students. On the first day of class, she takes a photo of each student, asking them to write their name underneath, along with something about themselves they would like to share. After 15 years of teaching at Normandale Community College, Longley's student "photo album" has thousands of photos in it, and she treasures it. Personal

connections are at the core of her exceptional teaching methods. She believes that as they are learning, students want to be seen and feel a sense of belonging to their courses, to the college and to the community.

Students appreciate her efforts, which are clearly aimed at their success. As one former student said, "Betsy's commitment to her students is evidenced by her organization, promptness of test results and immediate response to questions...her office door is always open and she will put aside whatever she is working on to give you her undivided attention."

Longley earned a Ph.D. in physical chemistry from the University of Pittsburgh and a B.A. in chemistry from Hamline University. Her doctoral advisor was a scientist whose academic "lineage" was strong (his advisor was a Nobel laureate whose own advisor was Nobel laureate Linus Pauling). Just as influential for Longley was the emphasis her advisor placed on the importance of good teaching. He taught her that there need be no false choice between research and teaching, and her own career has shown her she can have both.

Longley teaches so that her students can revel in the wonder and excitement of science as her own education allowed her to do. For students whose preparation for science courses at the college level might put them at risk, Longley introduced supplemental instruction in her classes, providing a peer instructor and guide from among those students who have successfully completed her courses. Her students, despite their own expectations, say that chemistry in Longley's classes is actually fun.

Longley remains an active member of the American Chemical Society at the local and national levels. She continually develops her teaching expertise through involvement in several pedagogy-focused STEM organizations. Longley's out-of-classroom activities benefit her department, college, and profession. She serves Normandale's accreditation efforts as an AQIP project team member, and is an assessment division leader and database workgroup member. She has been active in partnerships between Normandale Community College and area institutions, such as the Bloomington Public Schools

and the local K-12 school board, and she has served on numerous college-wide committees and has been the Chemistry Department Assessment Coordinator, as well as the STEM-Ed Division Assessment leader.

REVIEWER COMMENTS

Content Expertise and Professional Growth Longley remains current in both chemistry and pedagogical literature and tests concepts in her teaching, incorporating new scholarly resources. She is actively engaged in the scholarship of teaching through involvement with the NSF-sponsored Project Kaleidoscope, the Process Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning project, and the 2-Year College Chemistry Consortium.

Teaching Strategies and Materials She clearly describes how her methods and assignments align with learning outcomes. Longley also ensures that her teaching strategies serve differing students' backgrounds. She works diligently to make the subject accessible for students and engages them in interaction with each other, with her, with chemistry. She has made over fifty instructional videos and has her students use these to do some of the preliminary work on their own. Students work together in short- and long-term groups and on projects, and all present their work at the end-of-semester student showcase. Longley encourages students to relate the course to their daily lives.

Standard for Assessment of Student Learning and Performance Longley has defined her course learning outcomes and shared them with students so that they know where in the course they will be learning particular content and specifically what levels of learning they will achieve. Students know which content they will learn on their own as well as what knowledge they will master through work done in class and which skills they will master working in lab. She uses an impressive Student Learning Assessment Database to determine gaps in student progress toward course outcomes.

Service to Students, Profession, Institution, System Longley demonstrates strong convictions about the importance of relationship in getting to know and support her students. She shares teaching strategies with other department faculty and serves on college committees. She has served as assessment leader for her department and her division, and has written or revised nearly all lab experiences to incorporate new content. She is active in partnerships between the college and area institutions, among them the Bloomington Public Schools; also serves on the Curriculum Advisory Committee for the local K-12 school board and is the college liaison for the district-level Parent Teacher Student Association group.



Shana Petermann

Instructor of Biology

Minnesota State Community and Technical College

Shana Petermann says that being an educator means communicating to students that “there is no place I’d rather be, or nothing I’d rather do, than serve as their tour guide into the amazing world of microbiology.” Her guiding principle is that her courses aren’t hers, but her students. “In this educational environment, students can take courses anywhere. When they choose a course I teach, it is

a privilege,” she says.

Petermann expects to complete a Ph.D. in molecular pathogenesis at North Dakota State University at the end of this year. She took both her master’s and bachelor’s degrees in microbiology at NDSU, and worked there as a research scientist in the department of veterinary and microbiological sciences. Intending originally to be a pharmacist, as a graduate student she fell in love with both microbiology and teaching, and has been immersed in both for more than fifteen years.

Described by her students as honest and kind, Petermann makes time for and lets students know she cares about them and their success. One student’s comment summarizes many: “The instructor was one of the best I have had in my six years of college. She is extremely knowledgeable and conveys a passion for microbiology. She is always prepared, organized and presents the material in a way that is relatable. I would definitely recommend taking this course with her to others.”

But Petermann’s dedication to her students also means holding them to high standards. She and her students focus on assessing their learning throughout the semester, and she sends out an overview and expectations for online class 7-10 days prior to start. Her teaching strategies are strategically focused on developing problem-solving skills, not mere memorization. She engages students through role-play and relevant examples, and makes her lectures available online.

Petermann holds herself to equally high standards as a researcher and teacher. She publishes regularly in professional journals, and is deeply engaged in the scholarship of teaching. She actively partnered with North Dakota State College of Science to develop and deliver a collaborative associate of applied science degree in nanoscience technology. A faculty and student club advisor, Petermann has been involved in many outreach activities, including planning a student career event and creating a DNA isolation module for Minnesota high-school teachers and counselors. She has served on a long list of campus committees, including a college-wide assessment workgroup, persistence

and student retention committees, the Foundations of Excellence steering committee, and the graduation committee.

REVIEWER COMMENTS

Content Expertise and Professional Growth Petermann is a long-standing member of the American Society for Microbiology and several other professional organizations, including the Golden Key National Honor Society. She has a continuous record of scholarly publications and state, national and international conference attendance and presentations. She has an impressive record of grant-seeking and awards. She continuously participates in workshops, seminars and conferences to increase her content knowledge, improve teaching effectiveness, improve student learning and employ new technologies in the classroom. She received a teaching award from the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development.

Teaching Strategies and Materials She works to ensure that students don't feel anonymous and uses a fun, engaging tone in syllabi and materials; provides variety and depth of learning materials. Peterman teaches difficult courses in a difficult area, with generally high attrition and/or failure rates. She has found ways to connect with students and persuade them, through her scholarship, persistence, imagination, and creativity, to hang in there. Student comments show remarkable consistency in their praise of her while acknowledging the difficulty of what they are learning.

Standard for Assessment of Student Learning and Performance Petermann is committed to genuine assessment of learning, and her assessments leads to adjustments in her teaching methods. She uses a number of direct and indirect measures temporally—i.e., the complexity of measurement increases as learning, and the semester, progress. She is involved in a three-year assessment project for a medical microbiology course that uses an innovative online learning platform to reinforce course material. Her student learning outcomes reflections rubric gives students an opportunity to think about their thinking and gives her valuable information about the activities and assignments that were most beneficial to students.

Service to Students, Profession, Institution, System Petermann provides exceptional service to her students. Her courses are creative and purposeful, and she maximizes her availability for her students (including the occasional email at 4 a.m. and consistent feedback in courses). Students appreciate her informal interactions, citing hallway conversations and impromptu chats in the Fireside Commons. She is an advisor for several programs and participates in microbiology "summer camp" for high school students. She's very active in campus work, most notably as an active member of the college assessment work group and assessment initiatives.



Lisa Smith

Instructor of Chemistry

North Hennepin Community College

Lisa Smith began teaching at North Hennepin Community College in 2008, and she and her students have been on an upwards trajectory of learning ever since. Smith demonstrates expertise not only in her subject matter but in bringing theories of learning to practice in effective teaching. She keeps up to date with developments in her field and provides a wide range of services to her profession,

but what makes her truly exceptional is the way she uses assessment to inform her teaching at every stage of the courses she teaches, and the ways in which she individualizes learning for her students. She uses qualitative and quantitative methods to collect and analyze data about her students' learning and adapts her teaching accordingly.

Smith has a master's degree in chemistry from the University of Minnesota and a bachelor of science in chemistry from the University of Wisconsin. Immediately upon graduation, she began to fulfill a lifelong dream to teach. "To this day," she says, "I still think grading papers is fun and extremely rewarding. Most people think I am crazy when I say that, but this is when I get to see how my students are learning, and in effect, how well I am teaching." She employs a variety of teaching strategies aimed at reaching each student's learning style.

To help connect with students, she maintains flexible campus office hours, including live online office hours. She makes use of videos to supplement every section of material in her courses, and if she can't find a YouTube video, she creates her own. She manages and revises the department's digital experiments in chemistry. "Lisa's enthusiasm for the subject matter is unrivaled," one of her students said. "A brilliant student herself, Lisa could have chosen any profession, but she chose teaching. It is not uncommon for teachers to care about student success, but it is rare to see the complete and honest commitment to that success as is embodied by Lisa."

Since she came to NHCC, Smith has been actively involved in campus life, including serving on the First Year Experience Committee, Student Success Day, and the Asian Heritage Initiative. In the STEM community, she serves as a regional judge for science competitions and is a content reviewer for course content and publisher materials, including many digital products. After reviewing Smith's portfolio, one reviewer said she is "as close as one can get to getting everything right." Smith is new to the profession, both excited about and in herself strong evidence of all its possibilities.

REVIEWER COMMENTS

Content Expertise and Professional Growth She aims to continually improve her expertise both as it relates to chemistry knowledge and as it relates to pedagogy. She maintains active membership in the American Chemical Society and presents at academic conferences in a variety of areas (STEM retention, meta-cognition). She has collaborated with faculty at the University of Minnesota in research on chemistry students' learning including meta-cognition and critical thinking skills.

Teaching Strategies and Materials Smith employs a variety of teaching strategies aimed at reaching every students' learning style, including a question-and-answer style in her delivery, which helps students delve into and think about the material, but also creates an informal and comfortable learning environment. Students do partner work, group reviews/competitions, and take advantage of Smith's fill-in-the-blank lecture notes that help students focus on what is most important, while also getting the opportunity to test their knowledge. Smith utilizes animations to demonstrate complex topics and also uses clickers to instantly assess student understanding.

Standard for Assessment of Student Learning and Performance She uses assessment of her courses to inform her teaching—at every stage and for every student. Smith stands out in her use of anonymous, real-time self-assessment strategies for students, and in her use of in-class feedback loops to supplement formal testing and assessment. She creates and maintains rigorous standards for herself and the learning environment. All of the data and evidence she collects is used to inform practices and improve student learning outcomes in multiple delivery modes, many of which are new in the sciences. She is extremely thoughtful and deliberate in every aspect of teaching, and presents impressive details of how she has assessed her teaching techniques to motivate and support student learning.

Service to Students, Profession, Institution, System Ever-available to students, she answers 700-1200 student emails a semester and advises, mentors and connects them with professional contacts. She promotes First Experience to other faculty, and serves on many campus committees and as division coordinator. She is involved with student organizations as an advisor to the student science club, SURGE, and as a faculty representative on the Asian Heritage Initiative. She has joined the college's Achievement Gap Initiative and will become a resource for other faculty who want to learn and incorporate classroom strategies aimed at reducing and eliminating achievement and opportunity gaps.

OUTSTANDING EDUCATORS

A sampling of comments from students, colleagues, deans, and presidents. They recognized these faculty as outstanding in every regard: as teachers, advisors, colleagues, scholars and professionals.

James Bainer • Diesel Technology

*Minnesota State Community and Technical College
President Peggy Kennedy*

Bainer is a tireless champion for his students, industry and program. A campus leader and trusted advisor, this exceptional teacher also fosters industry connections that have resulted in millions in donated program equipment, grants, scholarships and potential job opportunities for students.



Jennifer Bingle • Communications

*Anoka Technical College
President Kent Hanson*

Bingle prefers not to be called an expert in her field since that would imply she has achieved a conclusive state of knowing. Instead, this remarkable teacher embraces the belief that she is continually on her way, and her quest to offer students relevant, authentic learning experiences remains in motion.



Taiyon Coleman • English

*Minneapolis Community and Technical College
Interim President Avelino Mills-Novoa*

Coleman knows firsthand that with the support and encouragement of teachers, one can overcome life's challenges and earn an education. Her level of impact is a marvel; she works diligently to support and mentor her students, as well as to make her college a more welcoming and inclusive community.



Bonnie Crawford • Dental Assistant

Rochester Community and Technical College

President Leslie McClellon

Since joining the college in 1976, Crawford has been a tremendous educator and campus leader. She has adapted to and embraced changes in her profession and has incorporated technological advancements into her curriculum. Program accreditation is maintained through her vigilant efforts.



Andrew Dahlen • Electronics Technology and Automated Systems

Northland Community and Technical College

President Anne Temte

Dahlen's enthusiasm and talent as a technology educator shine not only on campus, but also throughout the community. This gifted teacher leads robotics competitions, summer camps, and Lego Leagues. An industry partnership he fostered with Digi-Key Corporation is a resounding success.



Kelly Donahue • English

Century College

President Ron Anderson

Donahue is relentless about improving teaching methods, strengthening department curriculum and fostering best practices. Well-known for putting the needs of her students first, she has eliminated expensive textbooks from her courses, instead opting to use open, online educational resources.



Gretchen Flaherty • English

Lake Superior College

President Patrick Johns

Flaherty clearly loves her job and her students respond in kind, thankful for a teacher who deftly connects with them and makes her classroom feel like a community. This fun, sometimes "goofy," instructor is fearless when it comes to uncovering new, innovative ways to promote student success.



Bruce Fuhrman • Photographic Imaging Technology

Central Lakes College

President Larry Lundblad

Students in Fuhrman’s classes find out quickly that he promotes learning through student ownership, awareness and responsibility. A dedicated, committed educator who believes in community service, his goal is to maximize student learning, fully preparing students for their future professions.



Lynda Goerisch • Emergency Medical Services

Century College

President Ron Anderson

Goerisch personifies the “scholar practitioner,” continually integrating curriculum with her real-world experiences as a paramedic. Her superlative teaching methods ensure the kind of student learning that allows her students to master EMS education standards and seamlessly transition into the workforce.



Ellen Goslee • Nursing

Riverland Community College

President Adenuga Atewologun

Always inventive, Goslee brings interaction, empathy, insight and high standards into her classroom. Employing a superior skill set, this nursing instructor develops technology-rich techniques and labs and adapts them for online delivery or use in flipped classrooms and simulations.



Mary Gruis • English

Ridgewater College

President Douglas Allen

Brimming with enthusiasm and positive energy, Gruis is the type of instructor who makes two-year colleges relevant and inviting. Her creative and collaborative approach to teaching is student-friendly and accessible, and her ceaseless dedication to learning and mentoring helps ensure students succeed.



Julia Haider • Philosophy

Saint Paul College

President Rassoul Dastmozd

Haider embodies the personal and professional attributes of an outstanding educator. She deeply cares about her students and her discipline and is active in her campus community, serving on committees and as department chair. Students appreciate her intellect, sense of humor and engaging personality.



Diane Hallberg • Biology

Hennepin Technical College

President Cecilia Cervantes

Hallberg has a passion for students and a dedication to her vocation that reaches beyond the walls of her college. A prolific volunteer, she is active with a myriad of campus events, speaks at health-related seminars, volunteers for community groups and is publishing a children's book on conservation biology.



Shirley Johnson • Academic Development

North Hennepin Community College

Interim President Lisa Larson

Johnson's belief in and compassion for students has a direct impact on their success. This devoted instructor takes the time to personally know her students and what's happening in their lives, and impressively accommodates individual needs while helping them learn vital reading skills.



Vicky Knickerbocker • Human Services and Sociology

Inver Hills Community College

President Tim Wynes

Known as a brilliant educator and experienced global traveler, Knickerbocker has the ability to bring the world into her classroom as a way to encourage students to be exploratory risk takers, and to demonstrate the educational benefits of going the extra mile to satisfy intellectual curiosities.



Marko Marian • Art

*Anoka-Ramsey Community College
President Kent Hanson*

One of Marian’s students calls him a “one-of-a-kind” teacher who is kind, compassionate and incredibly funny. Firmly believing that art should be an integral part of the college experience for students, as well as the community, Marian has been working to establish an art gallery on the Cambridge campus.



Kim Munson • Machine Tool Technology

*Minneapolis Community and Technical College
Interim President Avelino Mills-Novoa*

It would be hard to find a more committed educator than Munson. He has spent countless hours building machine tool technology at MCTC into an elite program which boasts a 100 percent placement rate. State-of-the-art equipment and internships are the result of his strong industry connections.



Stacey Nass, Computer Aided Drafting and Design

*Ridgewater College
President Douglas Allen*

Nass’s educational career demonstrates excellence in teaching and learning, expertise in her field, professional credibility, commitment to students and service to her college. Students say this humble, patient, fantastic teacher is always willing to go the extra mile to help anyone in need.



Margaret Noirjean • Medical Assistant

*Dakota County Technical College
Interim President Tim Wynes*

This superb educator is lauded not only for her creativity, dedication and professionalism, but also because she never fails to put students first. Noirjean’s formula for success includes a student service-learning project which not only benefits the community, but also allows students to practice their skills.



Gwendolyn O'Brien • Nursing

Anoka-Ramsey Community College

President Kent Hanson

"Let's shake up the classroom" is O'Brien's educational mantra. She achieves this by incorporating innovative learning approaches and getting students out of the seats with hands-on activities. This conscientious, highly-accomplished teacher produces skilled, caring nurses who excel at critical thinking.



Gary Olsen • Construction Electrician

Minnesota West Community and Technical College

Interim President Barbara McDonald

Olsen is lauded as an extraordinary educator who isn't satisfied with producing "ordinary" technicians. Instead, this master of his trade and energetic campus and community advocate graduates thoughtful, forward-thinking professionals who go on to become leaders in the electrical industry.



Lynn Poth • Medical Laboratory Technician

Saint Paul College

President Rassoul Dastmozd

Poth is deeply respected and admired for being a stellar educator and an active participant on campus committees and workgroups. She has worked on the development of state-wide curriculum, and was instrumental in a grant collaboration to enhance employment opportunities in her field.



Linda Russell • Reading

Minneapolis Community and Technical College

Interim President Avelino Mills-Novoa

Russell has had immeasurable impact on campus. To her students, she is an engaging, generous teacher who constantly tailors her instruction to meet their needs. To her colleagues, she is a consummate campus leader, a model for professional development and source for teaching and learning resources.



Elizabeth Sloan • Communication Studies

Anoka-Ramsey Community College

President Kent Hanson

Known for her energy and accomplishments on campus and off, Sloan is praised as charismatic, enthusiastic and caring. Her pedagogy is student-centered and her classrooms are welcoming, igniting the interest and participation of students from every ability level, demographic and academic pathway.



Christopher Sorenson • Biology

St. Cloud Technical and Community College

President Joyce Helens

Sorenson is a master at enhancing student engagement, learning and development. He focuses on active and applied learning opportunities for students, creating “aha” moments and bolstering their confidence. He is leading significant advances in the breadth and scope of student success efforts.



Jonathan Stuart • Customized Training Services

Hennepin Technical College

President Cecilia Cervantes

Stuart’s exemplary work in the areas of leadership education, cultural competency and dispute resolution have helped to solidify the college’s reputation as a valuable business and community resource. His record includes an astonishing array of scholarly, leadership, service and volunteer accomplishment.



Dione Thoma • Practical Nursing

Pine Technical and Community College

President Robert Musgrove

Thoma’s teaching philosophy is based on respect for the profession, for the educational process and for human nature. This nursing instructor’s students respond to her effective, student-centered teaching methods and assessments by consistently achieving high pass rates on national exams.



Andrew Tix • Psychology

Normandale Community College

President Joyce Ester

Tix's teaching philosophy centers on "significant learning," which embraces thinking critically, applying concepts, and wrestling with meaningful questions. He promotes and models lifelong learning. In addition to his classroom expertise, Tix has an active record of scholarly publication and conference presentations.



Nikka Vrieze • English

Rochester Community and Technical College

President Leslie McClellon

The well-respected teacher fosters a special connection with her students. As a first-generation college graduate from a home with few resources, Vrieze uses that insight to become an ally with her students. She exposes students to the world of possibilities education offers and helps them meet their goals.



Mike Wartman • Communication

Normandale Community College

President Joyce Ester

Wartman engages his students and colleagues with a dynamic teaching style, boundless energy and absolute commitment to his profession. This prestigious educator has received a multitude of teaching and service awards over his 34-year career, and the stunning level of his service work is unmatched.



Andrew Zieglmeier • Energy and Electronics

St. Cloud Technical and Community College,

President Joyce Helens

There is no way to describe this amazing instructor's teaching style without using the word passion. Zieglmeier is not only enthusiastic about his profession, but also ensures his students recognize it's an attribute employers seek. Student success in the workplace is how he measures his program's success.



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2014

- Deanna Forsman • History
North Hennepin Community College
- Cheryl Neudauer • Biology
Minneapolis Community and Technical College
- Sandra Sellner-Wee • Radiography
Riverland Community College
- Cheryl Tefer • Nursing
Anoka-Ramsey Community College

2013

- Andrew Aspaas • Chemistry
Anoka-Ramsey Community College
- Alan Erdahl • Biology
Riverland Community College
- Darci Goeden • Nursing
Central Lakes College
- Susan Thaemert • Dental Assisting
Hennepin Technical College

2012

- Phyllis Ballata • English
Century College
- Paul Carney • English
Minnesota State Community & Technical College
- Rod Milbrandt • Physics
Rochester Community & Technical College
- Shawn Mueske • Biology
Ridgewater College

2011

- Catherine Egenberger • Art
Rochester Community & Technical College
- David I. Page • Emergency Medical Services
Inver Hills Community College
- Elizabeth Picciano • Reading and College and Career Studies
Central Lakes College
- Pamela Anne Tranby • Biology
Riverland Community College

2010

- Paula Croonquist • Biology
Anoka-Ramsey Community College
- Lori Halverson-Wente • Speech Communication
Rochester Community & Technical College
- Mark Hickman • Transportation
Dakota County Technical College
- Pamela Whitfield • English and Equine Science
Rochester Community & Technical College

2009

- Chris Austin • Economics
Normandale Community College
- Dorian Beaulieu • Art
Lake Superior College
- Ernie Parker • Fluid Power Engineering Technology
Hennepin Technical College
- Deborah Roiger • Biology
St. Cloud Technical & Community College

BOARD OF TRUSTEES AWARDS

2008

Robin Fruth-Dugstad • Horticultural Technology
Rochester Community & Technical College

Suzette Overby • Human Services
Riverland Community College

Daniel Paulnock • Speech and Communication
Saint Paul College

Eugenia Paulus • Chemistry
North Hennepin Community College

2007

Donald E. Graves • Biology
Rainy River Community College

Michele M. Neaton • Speech and Communication
Century College

Julie A. Rodakowski • English/Communication Studies
Rochester Community & Technical College

THANK YOU

To celebrate these honorees requires the hard work and belief of many in a culture of honor and recognition. The following is a list of the people who helped to make this ceremony special.

- All of the students, faculty, and administrators who served on the campus selection committees
- The individuals who nominated candidates for the Board of Trustees Educator of the Year Award for Excellence in Teaching and the Professional Excellence Award for Administrative Service Faculty
- Joanne Sarkilahti and her students in the Floral Design program at Hennepin Technical College, Brooklyn Park, for providing the flowers
- Anoka-Ramsey Community College students Mitsuyo Baumer and Kayla Coffland, and music department chair Melissa Bergstrom, for their musical performances
- Cathy Wurzer, whose exemplary grace and talent as an emcee are again demonstrated at this event
- Glen Stubbe , photographer
- Savannah Wroge, Sally Ableitner and the staff at the Doubletree by Hilton
- Devin Mork of PSAV
- Gary Hatteberg, who created the video presentation
- Todd Hawkinson, who created the service pins and medallions
- Karen LaPlant and Ray Anschel, who assisted with event details
- Board of Trustees staff; system office staff

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