

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Dean: Dr. Lori Vermeulen

Anthropology and Sociology: Dr. Susan Johnston, Chair

Dr. Michael Di Giovine, Department of Anthropology and Sociology

-It's obvious he loves his job and his field; it's hard not to catch his excitement. He has a way of saying almost exactly what the book says but he makes it make sense. He has funny and relatable anecdotes that somehow, always tie back to his main idea.

-Dr. DiGiovane makes learning interesting. Through fun, real-life examples and engaging stories, he holds a class' attention. Introduction to Cultural Anthropology is my favorite class to attend throughout the day, and I am even considering take more in-depth classes in this field because I had such an engaging introduction. DiGiovane's gestures and excitement truly show his genuine love for his subject, and provide a shining example for his students' passions.

Dr. Sheldon Zink, Department of Anthropology and Sociology

-Dr. Zink is one of the most engaging professors I've ever had. She brings her energy and enthusiasm to class every day. Dr. Zink relates everything we learn back to the past and current events that happened in our society. Though I have her for sociology, she has taught me so much more, from philosophy to what fracking is.

-Dr. Zink truly cares about her students and is a mother herself so she understands her students are stressed at times. We are always prepared for tests and given accurate information. Dr. Zink is caring and always stops to ask if anyone needs clarification. She is patient and wants her students to succeed.

-Dr. Zink inspires me to get involved with the community and stand up for what I believe in. Not only do I learn all the information she teaches, but I actually am excited to come to class every day. Every day I come to class wondering what story we will get to hear today. She talks to us like we are equals and always has funny stories to relate to every lesson.

Biology: Dr. Jack Waber, Chair

Dr. Steve Broitman, Department of Biology

-Dr. Broitman really tries to make enzyme activity relatable to the students. He is very thorough and great at answering questions. Dr. Broitman is funny and tries to make us laugh even when the material is dry. He explains what is expected of us and there are no sudden surprises. He is fair and just.

Dr. Xin Fan, Department of Biology

-Dr. Fan deserves to be recognized as an outstanding faculty member for various reasons. She is a professor who will take her time to explain everything in detail and answer any question asked so the students can understand every aspect of the course material.

Especially in a class like microbiology, which can get specific and confusing, Dr. Fan cares about the students gaining the knowledge instead of just memorizing the information. Dr. Fan is passionate about her field of study, and uses her experiences as a teaching tool. She will tell stories and relate the material to the real world and the students in her class so they are interested in listening. In lab, she strives for our technique to be perfect because she wants us to be prepared for a job that we could get in this field right after graduation. Additionally, she is a funny woman and knows how to

Outstanding Faculty Recipients
2014-2015 Academic Year

crack a joke! Dr. Fan has a wealth of knowledge and came all the way from China to share it with us here at West Chester; she should be recognized for doing such a great job!

Dr. Maureen Knabb, Department of Biology

-Dr. Knabb really utilizes the strengths of her students and is very encouraging to her students. Her lectures were always very applicable to real-life situations, which made the course very exciting and interesting. She truly exemplifies her love of science and her passion for teaching each and every day. I can honestly say, Dr. Knabb is one of the best professors I have had at West Chester.

-Dr. Knabb is an outstanding faculty member because of the impression she has on students. I have only met Dr. Knabb a few times but she and I connected and she helped me find an alumnus I was looking for. I have also heard amazing comments about her as an advisor, professor, and friend.

Dr. Jack Waber, Department of Biology

-Dr. Waber has incredible talent of connecting to his students that makes each lesson meaningful. His honesty and willingness to be upfront about the realities going on in this world is truly admirable. Not only does Dr. Waber make the subject Biology comprehensive and interesting, but his sense of humor makes each class enjoyable (which is no easy task for an 8 AM). Overall, I have the utmost respect for Dr. Waber and strongly recommend taking his class to anyone in the field of Biology.

Chemistry: Dr. Blaise Frost, Chair

Dr. Jacqueline Butler, Department of Chemistry

-I've heard a thousand times how difficult and near-impossible this class is, but so far I've found it very manageable. That is completely due to Dr. Butler. She takes a hard concept and explains it so thoroughly and gives so many examples that there is really no way you could not understand the material. I could not imagine having a better professor for this course. Dr. Butler also always helps when a student has a question, explaining the concept even more thoroughly and repeats anything we did not catch the first time. She is a truly amazing professor.

-Dr. Butler engages an entire lecture hall full of students in every single lesson. I have never been good at chemistry, but with Dr. Butler, chemistry is easy to learn and I actually understand the material for once. She is so energetic and enthusiastic about teaching; she makes me excited about learning! Dr. Butler also creates fair exams and gives us endless opportunities for us to succeed in her class. Dr. Butler does her absolute best to teach us the information in ways we can easily understand and easily grasp.

Dr. David Dehm, Department of Chemistry

-Dr. Dehm really cares for his students and answers questions thoroughly. He is flexible and understandable. Dr. Dehm grades fairly (except his quizzes are hard).

Dr. Kurt Kolasinski, Department of Chemistry

-Dr. Kolasinski deserves to be recognized as an outstanding faculty member for all of the hard work he puts in to help students. He is so passionate about Physical Chemistry and knows how to connect with students on a level of understanding that I have never witnessed before. I have never had a professor get sad when no students come to their office hours for help like Dr. K does, just because he wants to help us do our best. He

Outstanding Faculty Recipients
2014-2015 Academic Year

also is a very dedicated research professor and loves having student researchers that he works with to complete projects and get a head start on their career.

Dr. Michael Moran, Department of Chemistry

- I believe Dr. Moran deserves this recognition for all of the help he has given me and to the other students in the Chemistry Department. He has been my advisor for three semesters now, and I feel as if I could go and talk to him about anything. He not only helped me transition into college, but has given a lot of advice and guidance for my major and career choices. He is always in a good mood, which helps many students feel comfortable. Finally, I would like to recognize his teaching style. He is very clear with instruction during lab, and makes sure that all students are on the same page and that they understand the material.

Dr. Thais Sielecki-Dzurdz, Department of Chemistry

- Dr. Sielecki provides excellent instruction for general chemistry while also being very helpful if students have questions. She grades very fair and is very understanding. She inspires students to trust their own data, which most professors do not do. I hope to take her lab for general chemistry II next semester.

Dr. John Townsend, Department of Chemistry

-Dr. Townsend has been encouraging and engaging from day one. I look forward to his class every week and I am always greeted with a smile. Unlike other professors, Dr. Townsend, gives the impression that he wants to be there and that he loves his job. Almost as if he is excited to teach, Dr. Townsend has revived a passion for science and I cannot wait to take his class in the spring as well.

-Dr. Townsend possesses a real passion for chemistry. During his class, his enthusiasm radiates to his students. He makes the material interesting and enjoyable, allowing for better understanding. Dr. Townsend's efforts to help his students should be noted and appreciated.

-Dr. Townsend is an outstanding professor because he really enjoys the class. He makes jokes during class, and even though they might not all be funny all the time, they keep you alert (some of them are funny though!) I have him for 8 AM chemistry and if it weren't for the energy he brings to class every day, I would surely fall asleep. Also, I think it's funny that he wears a Hawaiian shirt every Friday.

-Dr. Townsend is so easy to talk to and ask questions. He also keeps the class interesting. He gives examples in class to help us understand the material. Dr. Townsend also tries to keep everyone engaged by having us go on the board and answer questions.

-I believe Dr. Townsend deserves this recognition because he has gone above and beyond to make CHE 103 and 104 comfortable for me. I suffer from frequent anxiety attacks when speaking during class and he always checks in advance whether or not I feel comfortable enough to participate. He also has helped me many times when it comes to learning material despite my need for extra help due to my learning disability. Dr. Townsend is very committed to helping students of all learning styles.

Communication Studies: Dr. Timothy Brown, Chair

Dr. Mary Braz, Department of Communication Studies

Outstanding Faculty Recipients
2014-2015 Academic Year

-Dr. Braz teaches one of the few graduate courses in communication that require exam content. This course, as an undergraduate experience, would be taught strictly through lecture pulling from the primary texts; however, Dr. Braz makes the time to bring the methodologies of social research to life through real-world examples and hands-on practice of each method. By engaging students through relevant case studies, theoretical concepts become pragmatic resources for developing propositions and operationalizing constructs. In short, Dr. Braz empowers students at the graduate level to analyze and critique the information, ask effective questions of understanding and purpose, and facilitate critical discussions of appropriateness for each methodology of social research presented.

Dr. Kevin Dean, Department of Communication Studies

-Dr. Dean's energy is amazing. He used humor very effectively to illustrate points in the readings. You can tell he really likes teaching, which makes it fun to learn. I also appreciate the time he spends on grading our papers, while I complain about having to write so much I can see the improvements his comments have made in my writing.

-Dr. Dean has gone out of his way to be overly helpful to his students. He provided a very helpful seminar on scheduling after class and took his time to help me personally (and others I am sure) with schedule planning. Dr. Dean is a very inviting, friendly professor and is extremely helpful with any issues in and out of class.

-Dr. Dean is an energetic instructor who has never once lost my attention. He is a passionate and knowledgeable teacher who has never been off-putting in class. Out of all of my teachers, he is the one I struggle least with in order to learn, and he is simply an enjoyable person to be around.

-I believe that Dr. Dean deserves this recognition because he has an interesting way of teaching and makes it fun. There is never a dull moment in class, like one time when he was demonstrating power he accidentally snapped a student's pencil in half. He is not one of those professors that sticks to the status quo and is not afraid to admire his weaknesses, spelling. He helps us get to know him on a personal level by giving us specific examples from his life. All around a great guy. I love his class, HON 110, and definitely recommend taking this class or one that he teaches, you won't regret it.

-Dr. Dean has been one of the most remarkable professors I've had so far. Not only is he very friendly, but he's extremely helpful. He knows the ins and outs of West Chester University and is always happy to answer questions. I have him for Civic Engagement and Leadership Lessons through film course and it has not only been an interesting and enjoyable experience, but he is a great teacher and I've learned many valuable things.

-This professor is entertaining in the classroom by using nonconventional methods to teach. He tells stories and shows movies that tie into leadership skills. He is also a fair professor in homework and grading. He retains the attention of the class and makes the three hours bearable.

-Dr. Dean serves this recognition due to his teaching style, humor, and uplifting charisma. He possesses the necessary qualities to make a class of fifty feel like a one on one. He presents his material in an interesting way, and provides examples that make material easy to remember. His class is one that I look forward to each week, and one

Outstanding Faculty Recipients
2014-2015 Academic Year

that makes me want to learn. He makes jokes a lot and is always joyful and upbeat which reflects onto his students as well!

-With much hesitation, I decided to take a (nearly) three-hour honors course with Dr. Dean. As a first-year student, I had no idea how anyone survived three-hour long classes. After twenty minutes into Dr. Dean's HON 110 class, I understood. There was not a moment in that class that I wasn't captured by Dr. Dean's lecture. As we are learning about leadership, he has a way of making the subject matter very personal. I find myself wanting to become a better, stronger student through each class, and Dr. Dean's dedication to helping his students is inspiring. He realizes how intimidating college can be in the first semester, and took 45 minutes of his time to give us a lesson on scheduling after having just taught a three-hour lesson. I deeply admire Dr. Dean both as a teacher and as a person. It has been an honor to be in his class, and has made my first semester a very enjoyable one, and I thank him for all he has done.

-As a freshman I've only experienced a handful of professors so far, but no one has made as much of an impact as Dr. Dean. From my first time meeting him before I even knew I was going to attend West Chester University, his charisma and humor made me feel like I was making the right decision being a communications major. Taking his class has taught me more than I ever thought I would in just one semester. He engages his students and goes above and beyond what any other professor has done for us.

Professor Jeslin Joseph, Department of Communication Studies

-I am currently in Professor Joseph's interpersonal communication class. Her demeanor and attitude towards teaching blatantly influences the class in very positive ways. She always encourages participation and makes you feel like your answer is special. She allows everyone the chance to speak their opinion no matter if ten other responses had already been given. Professor Joseph is hilarious too, she also pays attention to what is popular and shows video clips from SNL and Friends, demonstrating her awareness of today's pop culture. Because of her efforts, my class is lively and I always look forward to what I am going to learn next.

Professor Maxine Gesualdi, Department of Communication Studies

-Professor Gesualdi, despite being new to staff, is ambitious, intellectual, and accommodating to her students. She is kind and patient when entertaining questions, and knowledgeable enough to expand extemporaneously during lectures in order to help students understand material. She is also friendly and relatable, providing personal connections in order to incorporate perspective and reliability into her class. Overall, as a student I feel that Professor Gesualdi is an excellent new addition to the staff.

Dr. David Levasseur, Department of Communication Studies

-Dr. Levasseur captivates his students through fun examples. He carefully selects movie clips to demonstrate complicated communication theories. Dr. Levasseur also shows his personality through his lectures and continues to make me enjoy his class.

-Dr. Levasseur is an amazing teacher due to his high enthusiasm and encouraging disposition. He is always eager to answer questions and help students out. He is also extremely friendly and approachable, so asking a question is never intimidating- he will

Outstanding Faculty Recipients
2014-2015 Academic Year

ensure that you fully understand the material. Also, he never fails to keep the class engaged. Even on days where I am tired, he manages to spread his high energy. Though he says too can watch his online lectures rather than attend class, the class never seems to be empty. All of the students truly do enjoy being in his class.

-Dr. Levasseur makes the class entertaining and educational. He tells us great stories as a way to understand the concepts in class. He always keeps us updated on what we can expect in class. He is a great professor to go to for advice.

Dr. Denise Polk, Department of Communication Studies

-This professor deserves recognition because of her constant desire for her students to better themselves so that they can help change the world. Dr. Polk's willingness and commitment to bratty freshman continues to astound me. Even at 8:00 in the morning she stands before us with a smile on her face. She exists far beyond an outstanding faculty member- she's a confidant, an encourager, and a wonderful teacher.

Dr. Martin Remland, Department of Communication Studies

-Dr. Remland is a professor that genuinely cares about his students. Each lesson, he goes over the material thoroughly to make sure they understand, whereas many teachers don't. He laughs with us, and makes the classroom a positive place to be. Dr. Remland's kindness is not a front, either. Outside of the classroom he is just as understanding and accommodating. Each day in his classroom is fulfilling, and Dr. Remland is never a minute late to class. His dedication is evident and I'm appreciative to have a professor like him.

Professor Wendy Smythe, Department of Communication Studies

-The attitude and energy Professor Smythe brings to the classroom is reason enough for her to be considered an outstanding educator. She teaches with clarity and answers all questions she is asked in a straightforward manner. I was initially nervous to be taking public speaking but Professor Smythe has prepared me well and eased my nerves. She strongly encourages seeing her during office hours and provides great help in these personal meetings. She manages to teach a troubling activity for many with such confidence that is only helpful in its approach.

English: Dr. Victoria Tischio, Chair

Professor Banner, Department of English

-I can tell that she really cares about her job. She's enthusiastic and makes sure that every student participates. She's always so well prepared and organized. She succeeds in connecting with her students.

-I think she deserves this recognition because of how her character meets her teaching style. She is passionate about her subject matter and is able to relay lessons clearly because of this. She pushes her willingness to extend on lessons in class or during office hours and engages and relates with students very well.

Dr. Randall Cream, Department of English

Outstanding Faculty Recipients
2014-2015 Academic Year

-Professor Cream is the most different professor I've ever had. He takes a collaborative approach to learning by using Google plus to allow students to connect and share ideas, sources, and essays. This has allowed me to expand my writing skills a lot. Also, he makes it a point to meet with his students privately so each student gets the time they need to improve.

Dr. Kristine Ervin, Department of English

-Dr. Ervin finds the nearly unattainable balance of showing her passion for her students and her subject. She sets the bar extremely high with creative writing and forces you to be the best writer you can be. Dr. Ervin has taught me that a good writer is never finished with their work and you are capable of much more than you think.

-Dr. Ervin motivates her students by providing provocative and thought provoking texts to analyze. She engages her students in class-wide analysis of poems, short stories, and media clips. She is the type of instructor who you want to impress and show your best work to. She also responds to all emails about our concerns with writing in a very timely manner and offers helpful advice to improve our writing. I am more involved in writing than I ever was because of her class and actively enjoying it.

Dr. John Hanson, Department of English

-Dr. Hanson's teaching style is one of a kind. He is very personable and gets to the point of what he's teaching. Even though his teaching style is simple, it is very effective in teaching students the proper way to write. I have thoroughly enjoyed his class so far this semester and look forward to having him again as a professor in the future.

Professor Justin Ligi, Department of English

-Professor Ligi really gets you to think outside the box. His teachings allow you to become a smarter person. Normally, writing is my least favorite class, but his class is something I look forward to. I would recommend him to any one of my friends.

Professor William Nessly, Department of English

-In my Lit class Professor Nessly makes everyone's voice heard by putting us in small groups to discuss before sharing with the class. The readings going along with the class are helpful and relevant to the topics discussed in class. He grades fairly, rewarding students for their hard work, and provides helpful commentary on essays.

Dr. Merry Perry, Department of English

-This professor deserves recognition because she makes the class very fun and every time I have class I am excited to learn. Dr. Perry's personality is bubbly and she makes everyone laugh. The class is pop culture and the material she covers in class is always interesting.

Professor Pauline Schmidt, Department of English

-Professor Schmidt's class is always fun and engaging. She is not harsh on you if you miss a class and need some help getting caught up. Her assignments are actually fun and

Outstanding Faculty Recipients
2014-2015 Academic Year

interesting, and she is a very kind person. The classroom has a very relaxed feel, and it is easy to participate.

Professor Spring Ulmer, Department of English

-Professor Ulmer, or as she allows her students to call her, Spring, is an advocate for expression and release. Spring will alter any aspect of her courses to fit the needs of every individual to help them play to their strengths and feel comfortable in the classroom setting. I have had the absolute pleasure of taking two classes with Spring so far in my career, and I am working towards a minor in Creative Writing specifically to take more classes with her! Any issue that she is presented with, personal, occupational, or otherwise, Spring has the beautiful strength required to overcome. Similarly, she is open with her class about her personal life, as an invitation to students to be open and honest. Many classmates have felt able to approach Spring with any and all questions or concerns, regardless of their relevance to the course. The embodiment of soul, Spring Ulmer is the most influential professor I have encountered in my two and a half years at West Chester, and I hope to remain in close contact with her for the remainder of my life.

Dr. Carla Verderame, Department of English

-Dr. Verderame is an exquisite professor in the English department. In her classes, she encourages open discussion and takes every opinion into account. She prepares her students for the exams with review sessions, and gives incredibly detailed feedback. Dr. Verderame is clearly passionate about 20th century Native American literature, and inspires the same passion in her students during each and every class. Not only is she a fantastic professor, but she is also happy to assist any and all of her students outside of the classroom. I wish I had the chance to take her more than once!

Geology and Astronomy: Dr. Martin Helmke, Chair

Dr. Joby Hilliker, Department of Geology and Astronomy

-Dr. Joby Hilliker deserves to be recognized as an outstanding educator. In and out of the classroom, he goes above and beyond in order to get his students excited about meteorology. The quick humor he uses in class alongside his friendly and conversational style of teaching makes for an exciting, yet laid back feel in the classroom. This atmosphere makes students inclined to partake in discussion and ask questions. As a student, seeing how passionate and enthusiastic Dr. Hilliker is in class and in office hours completely changed my mind about the whole subject. His class went from being something that I dreaded, to being by far, my favorite class I have ever taken here at West Chester University, and almost everyone who was in my class would agree. He cares about his students outside of a meteorology context, and that is something that more teachers should do: genuinely care about their students' lives and want to get to know them, as well as letting students get to know YOU.

Outstanding Faculty Recipients
2014-2015 Academic Year

Dr. Daria Nikitina, Department of Geology and Astronomy

-Dr. Nikitana is a great professor and advisor of the Geosciences. She is more than passionate about her work. Dr. Nikitana enjoys sharing her knowledge in applicable lab and field studies.

History: Dr. Cecilia Chien, Chair

Dr. Chalres Hardy, Department of History (all one nomination)

Dr. Hardy maintains a reputation of both fear and respect in the History Department because his students have two options: work hard or fall behind. This semester I have the daunting privilege of taking two of his courses, Digital Storytelling and the Great Migration (co-taught with Dr. Smucker) and History 400. In both courses, his enthusiasm and experience in the field shine.

A series of interviews Dr. Hardy conducted in the 1980s provide the foundation for the Great Migration course. Together, my class works to bring these personal stories to life through creative digital platforms. He teaches using examples, asking students to identify strengths and weaknesses as we draft our own projects. Dr. Hardy demonstrates his passion for history through his tremendous work ethic.

In History 400, Dr. Hardy challenged everyone in my class to contribute to history through new scholarship, and to do so exceptionally. Through this process, I have already become a more innovative thinker, a better writer, and a more detail-oriented researcher. He acts as an editor, giving invaluable feedback and guides us to find the richest sources so we can take pride in our final product. As this journey continues, I hope to further improve my skill set, and I am confident Dr. Hardy will guide me in the right direction.

Dr. Thomas Legg, Department of History

-Dr. Legg does an incredible job of showing students history does not have to be boring. The class for which I have had him is a general education course and, therefore, full of students who do not explicitly have an interest in history. Being fully aware of this, Dr. Legg deliberately relates every historical concept to a modern day equivalent and, when possible, relates the example directly to the life of a college student. I love seeing students who previously found history dull begin to recognize and understand the content after he has put the story into terms the students can understand. He does not want his students to memorize and recite facts, but he teaches so that they will have an understanding of the events and their meaning. He is clearly very educated and passionate about what he teaches and can successfully pique even the most disinterested student's interest. For all of these reasons, I believe he is worthy of an Outstanding Faculty Nomination.

Dr. Brent Ruswick, Department of History

-In Social Studies Methods, Dr. Ruswick teaches through modeling. He identifies the strengths and weaknesses in his own plans, encouraging student teachers to do the same

Outstanding Faculty Recipients
2014-2015 Academic Year

and to actively work toward self-improvement. Dr. Ruswick fosters an atmosphere of peer collaboration and constructive criticism as we draft and mock-teach our lesson plans. He spends hours line-editing our unit plans, providing invaluable feedback so we can reflect and move forward. His discussion points are engaging and comprehensive, emphasizing pedagogical knowledge that previous education courses may have glossed over. Because of my experiences in Dr. Ruswick's course so far, I feel more confident in my ability to be a Social Studies teacher who makes a difference.

Dr. Janneken Smucker, Department of History

-Dr. Smucker and Dr. Hardy's joint Digital Storytelling and the Great Migration course gives its undergraduate students unprecedented responsibility. Under their guidance, we worked with graduate students to create an online compilation of primary sources, outline indexes of audio interviews, write and edit biographies of interviewees, and collaborate to draft our own digital story projects. As I embark on these assignments, succeeding in each task takes a good deal of trial and error. Dr. Smucker's sound advice on storytelling and vast knowledge of technological solutions are invaluable to this process. She hosts several workshops that help me navigate the assignments to create material worth publishing. Her friendly demeanor makes her extremely approachable for any questions I have. As a professor and an advisor, Dr. Smucker actively listens to my concerns and gives thoughtful responses. She inspires me to stay updated and try new technologies to enhance my future Social Studies classroom.

Language and Cultures: Dr. Jerome Williams, Chair

Dr. Cristobal Cardemil-Krause, Department of Language and Cultures

-Este profesor es muy claro cuando se enseña español. Él convierte un sujeto difícil a fácil, con mucha explicación y ejemplos. Nos enseña la cultura latina con las lecturas y se hace las lecturas más divertidas con su excelente personalidad y chistes. Soy una mejor escritora porque me ayuda con mis errores y puedo corregirlos. Solo soy una estudiante primera, pero Profesor Cristobal es mi profesor favorito y su clase es la mejor.

Dr. Bridgitte Goutal, Department of Language and Cultures

-Dr. Goutal makes sure that her students learn and stay active every day, even though her classes only meet three times a week. She is the brightest part of my 9:00 am and makes sure everyone is engaged. She works extra hard in order for everyone to feel confident in his or her studies. Her enthusiasm and care for students makes her one of the most respectable professors at this university. Vive la France!

Dr. Roxanne Petit-Rasselle, Department of Language and Cultures

-Madame Petit-Rasselle cares deeply for each of her students and sees their potential when even they have trouble seeing it. She takes a very student-friendly approach to teaching a foreign language, knowing that it is a difficult process that is only made harder by a teacher who does not understand and empathize with the struggles of her students.
-Madame Petit-Rasselle keeps her classes interesting and applicable to her students and

Outstanding Faculty Recipients
2014-2015 Academic Year

provides great feedback on assignments that allows for growth. While teaching in a manner that keeps her classes interesting and easy to follow, her concern and care for each of her students only adds to the efficacy of her teaching methods. By making each student feel cared for and up-to-the-task, Madame Petit-Rasselle provides an optimal learning and growing environment for each student lucky enough to be in her class

Dr. Kordula Segler-Stahl, Department of Language and Cultures

Dr. Segler- Stahl is a great communicator. She takes her time in explain topics to us and makes sure we understand the material before moving in. She does a fantastic job giving us plenty of opportunities to practice what we learned. She also uses a variety of different teaching techniques to keep class fresh, interesting, and help us learn.

Mathematics: Dr. Kathleen Jackson, Chair

Dr. Brian Bowen, Department of Mathematics

-Dr. Bowen goes above and beyond to make sure his students understand the material. The way his class is set up allows his students to interact in groups and really get to teach fellow students. He also keeps his classes upbeat and is never boring. Plus, he always gives out cookies on test and quiz days! Overall, Dr. Bowen is a great professor who really cares about his students and the subject he teaches.

Professor Beth Messere, Department of Mathematics

-Professor Messere provides not only quality education, but quality time, energy, and encouragement. In many ways, these three aspects are beneficial to students even more so than the general curriculum. Professor Messere's commitment to her students combined with her caliber of teaching lends to a comfortable learning environment in which all students can thrive. Her love of math, and education makes Professor Messere a truly phenomenal faculty member and a more than worthy recipient of the title "Outstanding Faculty Member."

Dr. Scott Parsell, Department of Mathematics

-Dr. Parsell is the most engaging and effective professor I have ever taken. He makes even the most challenging and least accessible curriculum material simple with his clear and simple lectures. His commitment to students transcends the classroom, and he makes himself available during office hours and whenever he is in his office in addition to replying to emails far past regular hours. His sense of humor augments his already interesting delivery of course content, and his suggestion for students to refer to him as "Scotty P" breaks down the teacher-student barrier that occasionally creates an environment where students feel uncomfortable participating and asking questions. Bottom line- Scotty P- 10/10 would recommend, would take again.

Professor John Walsh, Department of Mathematics

-Professor Walsh is my favorite professor so far in my college career for a few reasons. One of those reasons is his dedication to making his students comfortable and making the materials relate to real life. Secondly, he is a fun professor and ensures that his students

Outstanding Faculty Recipients
2014-2015 Academic Year

understand the material at hand. Lastly, Professor Walsh's grading is great because he is more concerned with our understanding of how things work rather than complicated numbers.

-I have never gotten a 100 on a math test until I had Professor Walsh. He excels at teaching mathematical concepts with clarity. He gives attention to any student who asks. He is entertaining in class and knows every student by name. Professor Walsh gave me new faith in my mathematical abilities.

Philosophy: Dr. Helen Schroepfer, Chair

Dr. Steven James, Department of Philosophy

-Dr. Steven James is always engaged with his class. Despite teaching a Philosophy 101 class to myself and my classmates he manages to go into great depth by making himself and the class greatly involved. I admire Dr. Steven James' grasp of public speaking and rhetoric which allows him to be so involved in the class. Professor Steven James is by far one of the best educational professors I have had the opportunity to learn under.

Dr. Ruth Porritt, Department of Philosophy

-Dr. Porritt is very helpful, especially during her office hours. She will stop to answer any questions about any of the material. Dr. Porritt makes class challenging but fun and interesting at the same time.

-Dr. Ruth Porritt shows a genuine interest in both the subject material and her students. Her enthusiasm and vast insight creates a tremendous learning environment. Within my ethics class, I have faced scenarios that have resulted in a personal development in my character. By and large, Dr. Ruth Porritt has opened my eyes to my inner self and the outside world.

Dr. Elizabeth Simon Ruchti, Department of Philosophy

-Dr. Ruchti connects with her students on a personal level to ensure her students understand ethics. Because of her background, she has insight on certain fields that others may not. She also uses real life issues in order to help teach her ethics course. She uses these issues to debate with her students to they understand the material better. Finally, she makes sure her students understand that by doing their work, they will achieve better scores.

Physics: Dr. Anthony Nicastro, Chair

Dr. Robert Thornton, Department of Physics

-Dr. Thornton provides many opportunities to learn and makes sure to provide each individual student with the tools to succeed. He is very approachable in office hours and will answer any questions to the best of his ability. Dr. Thornton also uses physical examples in class, which helps for comprehension of topics and content. He makes jokes relating to the topic in class, which keeps the class attentive and engaged. Overall, Dr. Thornton is approachable, reliable, kind, and willing to give up his time and energy to help every student.

Outstanding Faculty Recipients
2014-2015 Academic Year

-Dr. Thornton deserves to be recognized as an outstanding faculty member because of his dedication to his students. He is willing to help any student at any time and extends his office hours to make sure students get the help they need. Dr. Thornton helps us understand the material and when we don't understand it he continues to go over it until there is no more confusion. No other professor I have had can tell how confused we are just by looking out into the class. This is Dr. Thornton's first time teaching Physics 180 and while it can be a challenge, he has gone above and beyond my expectations as a professor.

Dr. Matthew Waite, Department of Physics

-Dr. Waite strives to ensure his students know the information he teaches. In class, he provides ample examples and expansions and explains them with humor. For the chapter on rotational motion in PHY 170, he uses a Pikachu figurine to explain the content. His little pieces of humor and sarcasm invite the class to learn and enjoy it.

Psychology: Dr. Loretta Rieser-Danner, Chair

Dr. Susan Gans, Department of Psychology

-Dr. Susan Gans is passionate about the psychology classes she teaches and relates the material to the students she is teaching. Often times she will give personal examples from her life which aids in learning the material as well as promoting a connection to her students. Not only is Dr. Gans a spectacular professor, she is also a caring and very helpful advisor. She promotes pursuing what a student really enjoys and helps find a way to tie it into their major. She has gone as far as finding staff related to specific interests outside of the major she teaches in and putting me in contact with them.

-Dr. Gans teaches her subject with the understanding that not everyone in her class likes or understands the subject. She is a pleasure to be with in class. She understands that the class average doesn't always reflect understanding. Dr. Gans is a superb teacher!

Dr. Barbra Giza, Department of Psychology

-Dr. Giza goes above and beyond to ensure her students understand the concepts by offering review sessions on weekends and being available via phone as well as email. She gives plenty of opportunities for success and she does not try to trick her students unfairly. Additionally, she makes the material more interesting and relatable, stimulating us with video, power points, and stories. To top it off, Dr. Giza is charismatic and fashionable, never boring.

Professor Mara McCulloch, Department of Psychology

-One of the few professors I have had that makes class something I look forward to! Professor McCulloch really wants to see her students succeed! This semester I have her for Multicultural Psychology and I have never been so excited to participate in a class. Her personal stories and experiences make Multicultural Psych by far the most hilarious,

Outstanding Faculty Recipients
2014-2015 Academic Year

rewarding, and enriching class I have taken. She is a great person and a great professor! She truly embodies what it means to be an outstanding educator.

Dr. Paula Skutnick-Henley, Department of Psychology

-Professor Skutnick-Henley always tries to engage her students in exciting discussions. She involves different talks on campus with her course to allow learning outside the classroom. She makes sure she uses real world applications to explain theories to make her class more exciting. Professor Skutnick-Henley is clearly dedicated to her students.

Dr. Thomas Treadwell, Department of Psychology

-Dr. Treadwell demonstrates a willingness to help students like no other individual I have met, both as a student and as a community member. Integrated in his course curriculum is the willingness to help each student overcome a personal struggle he or she cannot bring to resolution. Putting aside his personal stories and experiences, Dr. Treadwell focuses on you, with the goal of helping in whatever way he can. Additionally, his ability to promote a caring classroom community rises beyond the expectation of simply feeling comfortable in a course; colleagues evolve into a family. Under no circumstance would I question his intentions or abilities in improving the life of any student. With no reservations, I nominate Dr. Thomas Treadwell as an Outstanding Faculty member. His ability and passion for creating a life lesson rather than a class lesson makes him an educator on life, not academia.

Professor Cynthia Tucci, Department of Psychology

-Every action Professor Tucci takes is a learning experience, even the ones that seem unintentional. Her passion for students is undeniable. Professor Tucci's true gift is her hands-on approach to teaching, which shows the real-life application of her lectures.

-Professor Tucci relates to students in a way that I have never experienced before. She treats her students as individuals and does anything she can to help them. She also teaches with a clinical focus, which helped me solidify that I want to be a therapist. Her real world examples helped a lot also. We do not get case studies in any other class and it could benefit everyone. Finally, last semester in her new counseling class changed my life. I learned so much about others and myself. I am going to take those insights with me into my professional career.

-Professor Tucci is an awesome professor. She teaches the information clearly and always relates lecture to the clinical world. She has gone through so much and manages to stay a positive and great professor!