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Academic Success: Lindenwood Announces 2024 Faculty Award Winners

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During an awards ceremony in J. Scheidegger Theater on March 19, a group of Lindenwood faculty members were recognized for their contributions and dedication to their students and the University.

Each one of Lindenwood's 189 faculty members is dedicated to living out Lindenwood's mission of enhancing lives through quality education and professional preparatory experiences. Their combined efforts ensure Lindenwood's status as a top-notch higher education institution. The Faculty Awards signify these individuals' relentless efforts within their roles across the University.

Information Systems Professor Dr. Maryann Townsend received the Excellence in Teaching Award after demonstrating the best combination of pedagogical innovation, student-centeredness, and effectiveness as a classroom teacher.

Director of the Economic Education Center Dr. Tawni Hunt Ferrarini was awarded the President's Scholar-Teacher Award for effectively merging professional scholarship with effective pedagogy.

Associate Professor of English Dr. Melissa Elmes received the Scholar of the Year Award, which is presented to a full-time faculty member who exhibited the highest level of professional scholarship.

English Professor Dr. Justine Pas was awarded the Lindenwood Service Award, which is given to a full-time faculty member who exhibited the highest level of service to and promotion of the University.

Management Professor Dr. Betty Rottmann received this year's Lindenwood Adjunct Teaching Award. This honor is presented to the part-time or adjunct faculty member who, in the judgment of their colleagues, demonstrates the best combination of pedagogical innovation, student-centeredness, and effectiveness as a classroom teacher.

Chemistry Professor Dr. Ricardo Delgado was awarded the OVC Outstanding Faculty Award.

RISE Awards recognize four faculty members who have achieved excellence in teaching. These awards are characterized by rigor, inclusiveness, support, and engagement. These pillars provide a framework for effective teaching that can help faculty to elevate learning for a diverse student body.

Assistant Professor of Curriculum and Instruction Kathryn Barohne received the RISE Adjunct Faculty Award for showing a strong commitment to teaching and learning by spending time and effort to make her course notes and recording available to students after class, as well as providing feedback.

Art and Design Professor Dr. Jason Dude Lively was awarded the RISE Online Teaching Award. He regularly uses the RISE framework to support excellent teaching and learning practices. Dude Lively teaches students how to use artificial intelligence when designing websites and makes engaging with emerging technology, such as video feedback, an expectation through his courses.

Psychology Senior Professor Dr. Michiko Nohara-LeClair was awarded the RISE Accessibility Award for making digital accessibility of course materials a primary focus of her teaching. Nohara-LeClair makes proactive decisions to promote inclusion and support for all students and is active with student clubs. Her team placed first in last year's Amazing Race Ability Edition.

Lindenwood Student Government Awards were also presented, which allow students to come together to nominate faculty members for their significant contributions to the University. Management Professor Eric Stuhler was awarded the Faculty Advisor and Mentor of the Year Award, while Criminal Justice Professor Dr. Pernell Witherspoon received the Professor of the Year Award.

Adjunct Professor of English Paula Nunning received the First-Year Impact Award because her instruction, advising, and service have had a positive impact on first-year students at Lindenwood.

Together, these individuals exemplify Lindenwood's values of putting students first and thriving together to enhance the lives of students across the University. These awards are testaments to their commitment to providing the highest quality of education and their ability to foster a community founded on collaboration.