

2014 AWARD FOR EXCELLENT TEACHING

Timothy A. Spurgin

Since coming to Lawrence in 1990, you have been an outstanding teacher. Students consistently praise your skill as both a lecturer and seminar leader. It is common to hear your work in the classroom described with statements such as “The discussions were amazing,” and “This was an absolutely fabulous course all around” and the ultimate accolade, “Professor Spurgin is simply the best professor on campus.” Your superb teaching has been recognized by colleagues at Lawrence several times. You have been presented with the *Freshman Studies Teaching Prize* and the *Outstanding Young Teacher Award*. In the larger world of learning you have earned a strong reputation for your work. One notable example is a commission by a group called The Teaching Company to create two different lecture series that are recorded on CDs and DVDs.

As wonderful as your courses are, your teaching goes well beyond the confines of our classrooms. You help students and faculty learn in countless ways; through individual conferences in your office, presentations at *Freshman Studies* symposia, discussion group sessions on new ideas about our educational mission, and private advisory sessions that help colleagues develop their own teaching abilities. You even help colleagues learn through your comments made at faculty meetings, which are always well reasoned. Your firm but calm approach is a form of teaching that makes the entire campus a place where learning flourishes.

For your many contributions that have helped make Lawrence an outstanding institution of learning, I am pleased to honor you today with the 2014 University Award for Excellent Teaching.

June 15, 2014