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Excellent Teaching Award Citation for Eilene Hoft-March

Lawrence University

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2011 UNIVERSITY AWARD FOR EXCELLENT TEACHING

Eilene Hoft-March

Your skill in teaching French language and literature to several generations of students has been extraordinary. You continually create new ways to encourage students to think, discuss, and analyze, whether the topic is the proper formulation of verb tenses or the interpretation of the philosophical foundations of a complex literary work. Students appreciate your ability to help them overcome their anxieties, your willingness to spend long hours working with them, and your consistent dedication to helping them achieve all of which they are capable. They also respect the high standards you set for them. It is not easy to have high expectations and be loved at the same time, or to insist that students dive deep into the text and have them thank you for it, but you have achieved these combinations, and they define you as a remarkable teacher. You have been a great faculty leader in the Freshman Studies program where you have taught students to read critically and write with style and clarity. There are many landmarks that define your success as a person devoted to learning: Your appointment to the Milwaukee-Downer College and College Endowment Association Professorship, your work as a mentor in the Posse program, and your successful grant proposal for a French film festival are a few of these landmarks. Above all else, the best signs of your success are the devotion of your students and the deep respect of your colleagues.

For your achievement in contributing so successfully to the education of our students, I am pleased to honor you today with the 2011 University Award for Excellent Teaching.