

2006 DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

Michael Davison, Professor of Music: Professor Davison has demonstrated his commitment to excellence in teaching over two decades at Richmond. Students repeatedly express their heartfelt admiration for his efforts citing in particular his insatiable curiosity, energy, dedication, and love of variety in music. Innovation is reflected in all his endeavors. Mike has designed courses, such as *Jazz Music and Poetry* that have become his signature; he was the first member of the Richmond faculty to employ language-across-the-curriculum. Professor Davison “leads by example,” having founded the jazz ensemble and directed brass ensembles, jazz combos, the faculty jazz ensemble, the pep band, and the student-faculty ensemble “Late 4 Breakfast.” He averages fifty concerts and recitals himself annually, and has risen to the rank of senior trumpet instructor at the renowned Interlochen International Arts Camp where he has taught for the last nineteen summers. Mike has led music students on guided trips to Australia and Cuba that resulted in clinics and concerts, a Cuban jazz course, a video documentary, lectures in Trinidad and Brazil, and the establishment of a Cuban jazz scholar residency here at Richmond. His unbounded enthusiasm and personal attention consistently bring out the best in student achievement, and Mike is well-known as a great mentor as well as excellent teacher.

Douglas A. Hicks, Associate Professor of Leadership Studies and Religion: The primary criterion for the Distinguished Educator Award is leadership in teaching and learning, and Professor Douglas Hicks's contributions in this regard could hardly be more compelling. Professor Hicks's students are acutely aware of his formidable talents both in the classroom and as a mentor on individual research and honors projects. Students recognize and appreciate his courses for being both demanding and rewarding, with one student stating that "Hicks is the best teacher I ever had." Other students routinely describe Doug as "kind," "considerate," "engaging," and "thoughtful". Doug is an accomplished scholar with nationally recognized expertise on religion in public life and the workplace. As the founding director of the Bonner Center for Civic Engagement, he has been instrumental in expanding experiential education at the University of Richmond, teaching and showing our students how applying what they learn here can have an important impact on the community.

Corinna B. Lain, Associate Professor of Law: Integrating legal doctrine with her experience from the practice of law, Professor Corinna Lain has emerged as both an outstanding teacher and a rising star among legal scholars in just a few years here at the University of Richmond. Professor Lain's students rave about her classes, taught in a style which is energetic, creative, and intellectually challenging. She has taught a wide range of both first-year and upper-level courses in the curriculum, including both large enrollment classes and intensive seminars. In each of these classes, students praise her ability to bring valuable insights from her experience as a successful prosecuting attorney. Likewise in her scholarship, Professor Lain has a keen eye for timely critical issues in criminal procedure, honed by her years of practice as a criminal trial attorney. Her scholarly work challenges conventional wisdom about the role and impact of the Supreme Court in the highly charged arena of constitutional law and criminal procedure, and has been reviewed in glowing terms by some of the nation's brightest and most respected legal minds. Professor Lain rapidly is becoming a scholar of national significance, and she is a superb teacher of the highest caliber.

Dr. John Marx, Associate Professor of English: Professor Marx's contributions to teaching and learning in his six years at Richmond have been extraordinary. He has significantly expanded offerings in the English Department and added new dimensions with innovative courses such as "Literature of Globalization," and "Power and the Pleasure of Skepticism". His courses are cited as superbly designed, intellectually challenging, and rigorous in their demands. His former students report that his efforts have had an important, and even profound, impact on their educations. One student wrote that he was "exceedingly confrontational and challenging in the best sense", leading students to *want* to do their best thinking and writing. Many students refer to his passion, enthusiasm, and exuberance. A productive scholar himself, Professor Marx has mentored many student theses as well as independent research projects. One of Professor Marx's former students remarked, "It is largely through his tutelage that I learned two cardinal skills of academia: confidently expressing one's own ideas and respectfully listening and considering the ideas of others." Teacher, scholar, mentor, and model – Professor Marx has distinguished himself in all roles while at Richmond.

KimMarie McGoldrick, Associate Professor of Economics: Dr. KimMarie McGoldrick is a talented scholar who uses her scholarship to inform a challenging teaching agenda that incorporates innovative instructional methods. KimMarie is known by her students as a demanding teacher who expects excellence and aids students in achieving that goal. Her work with the Senior Capstone course in economics is an example of new course development, curriculum redesign, mentoring independent study, and honors criteria, all rolled into one new, innovative course. Dr. McGoldrick's effort and time spent in excellent, rigorous teaching has not been at the expense of her own economics scholarship. She has earned a national reputation for her study of labor economics, particularly in the area of gender economics. She is a leader in advancing the status of women in the profession at large. A prolific author, KimMarie's publications include edited books, working papers, and refereed articles. In summary, Dr. McGoldrick is an outstanding teacher-scholar who inspires student achievement and who represents the Business School and the university in an exemplary fashion.

Porcher L'Engle Taylor, III, Associate Professor of Paralegal Studies: An educator who routinely engages in collaborative research and scholarship, Porcher Taylor is described by his colleagues as the consummate interdisciplinary scholar. He has taught and collaborated in all five University schools, over time teaching at least 15 different courses. He was the first School of Continuing Studies faculty member to teach the first-year CORE course. Porcher's students have described him as brilliant, challenging, enthusiastic, and caring. He is highly regarded in both the law classroom and the traditional classroom. One of his CORE students described him as a "most influential professor." Indeed, his influence stretches beyond the University. He has developed and implemented numerous innovative courses for medical doctors, financial and business leaders, and security and law enforcement personnel. He is widely published in legal, business, and military journals. His broad expertise and eclectic interests fuel what seems to be a limitless supply of new ideas and infectious enthusiasm. Students and colleagues have benefited from his generous spirit and commitment of personal time to many projects.