



Teachers with Reach:

2006 3M TEACHING FELLOWSHIPS ANNOUNCED

Not all University students are listening to Nickleback on their iPods. Some are just as likely catching Professor Bob “Killer Chem.” Burk’s first-year Chemistry pod-cast - labs. The 2006 Teaching Fellowship Award recipient’s class has an enrolment of hundreds because, as his students say, “You’re the best first-year teacher I have.”

Thanks to the imagination and generosity of 3M Canada, Burk is one of 208 Canadian university professors, representing 41 different universities, who have been recognized as 3M Teaching Fellowship Award recipients since 1986.

The Award is given to professors who excel in the teaching of their own courses and demonstrate an exceptionally high degree of leadership and commitment to the improvement of university teaching across disciplines. The Fellowship now includes teachers of medicine, engineering, business, humanities, agriculture, fine arts, social sciences, pure and applied science, nursing, education, law, and dentistry.

This year, a total of 47 nominations were received from 29 Canadian universities.

The recipients are:

Deborah Berrill, School of Education and Professional Learning, Trent University
 Robert Burk, Department of Chemistry, Carleton University,
 Gweneth Doane, School of Nursing, University of Victoria
 Susan Drain, Department of English, Mount Saint Vincent University,
 Frédéric Gourdeau, Département de mathématiques et de statistique, Université Laval
 David Kahane, Department of Philosophy, University of Alberta
 Anthony Lau, Department of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences, University of Alberta
 Heather Smith, International Studies, University of Northern British Columbia
 Robert Summerby-Murray, Department of Geography, Mount Allison University
 Susan Wurtele, Department of Geography, Trent University

“I am a teacher and I carry that with me as I weave my way through my various commitments,” says Heather Smith. She asks herself and her foreign policy students, “Are you genuine?”

For Susan Drain, “Writing is as important to university study as health is to productive, enjoyable lives.” Like plants, her students flourish under her care.

Two professors, Frédéric Gourdeau, a Francophone, and Tony Lau, an Anglophone, bridge barriers using their common language of Mathematics.

Students flock to Susan Wurtele’s courses. As one student said, “You have to love a course you’re going to miss attending.”

In a super sized Philosophy 101 classroom with more than 200 students, David Kahane’s innovative teaching receives some of the highest student ratings in the University of Alberta’s Faculty of Arts.

“I have rarely felt so seen, acknowledged, and encouraged,” said one of Gweneth Doane’s students. “Her exemplary teaching abilities are etched in my memory”

As a teacher and researcher, Robert Summerby-Murray has been a major force of change in academic geography in Canada. He has what has been described as a “natural way of inspiring greatness.”

“How could someone like Deborah Berrill be such an incredible human being and such an extraordinary teacher?”, asks her nominator.

The 2006 3M Teaching Fellows will be feted on June 16 at the STLHE Conference being held at the University of Toronto. In November, they will participate in an exclusive three day retreat at the Fairmont Le Château Montebello in Montebello, Quebec, to celebrate their outstanding achievements and to share their experiences and vision.

STLHE and 3M Canada will host an Awards banquet for Fellowship recipients on November 6, 2006.

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About the 3M Teaching Fellowship Awards



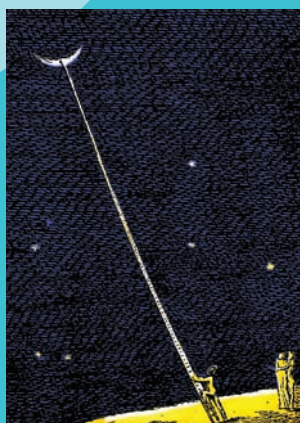
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and The Society for Teaching and Learning
in Higher Education (STLHE)

In 1986 3M Canada Company joined STLHE to co-sponsor the 3M Teaching Fellowships. Up to ten Fellowships are presented each year to recognize both teaching excellence and educational leadership.

The award includes a lifetime membership in STLHE, a citation, and an invitation to participate in a three-day retreat at Chateau Montebello in Quebec. This retreat provides the winners with an opportunity to share past teaching experiences and discuss new ideas. Nominations for the Fellowships are typically submitted by colleagues and follow the guidelines available at www.mcmaster.ca/STLHE/3M.council

Today, 3M Teaching Fellows throughout Canada represent a broad range of disciplines and work collaboratively to enhance teaching and learning at their own institutions and through larger initiatives supported by the Society. They also work collectively through the Council of 3M Teaching Fellows advocating policies and initiatives to enhance teaching and learning in Canadian universities. Please visit the Council's website at www.mta.ca/3m/

Drawing by William Blake



*...I don't know who I am,
But life is for learning.*

Joni Mitchell

