



Announcing

The 1999 Harriet W. Sheridan Award for Distinguished Contribution to Teaching and Learning at Brown University

The Harriet W. Sheridan Award recognizes those faculty of the University who have demonstrated their commitment to reflective teaching as an integral part of the enterprise of higher education. Such demonstration includes attention to the improvement of individual undergraduate and/or graduate instruction, support of departmental initiatives to develop and implement programs which actively encourage teaching within their discipline by faculty, graduate and undergraduate teaching assistants, and support for University-wide initiatives which seek to integrate teaching and research.

The 1999 Harriet W. Sheridan Award for Distinguished Contribution to Teaching and Learning at Brown University has been awarded to three outstanding members of the Brown teaching community. They are Professor George Borts (Economics), Prof. Jonathan Waage (Ecology and Evolutionary Biology) and Prof. Thomas Goodwillie (Mathematics). Nominated by their faculty colleagues, the Sheridan Center Advisory Board determined that these three faculty members amply fulfilled the criteria for this award.

The Advisory Board Awards committee, chaired by Prof. William Risen (Chemistry), cited each awardee for his signal contribution to the quality of instruction within their department. Prof. Borts was recognized for the many efforts he has made on behalf of integrating teaching and research as a fundamental goal of the discipline of Economics. A distinguished scholar, he was unstinting in his willingness to mentor graduate TAs and

junior colleagues and this has, in turn, has inspired his colleagues to emulate him. Prof. Borts was also recognized as the main architect in the transformation of Economics 11 into a productive undergraduate learning experience.

Prof. Waage was nominated by his colleagues in the department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology in recognition of his efforts on behalf of integrating teaching and research as a fundamental goal of the discipline. His mentoring of graduate TAs and junior colleagues is exemplary. In addition for being known for his innovative teaching in courses such as Bio-Med 45, he has developed methodologies which enhance the entire departmental curriculum. Furthermore, he was cited for his commitment to teaching beyond the department. His work with the Sheridan Center as Faculty Teaching Fellow, his long-standing membership on the CCC, and his active supporter of the WISE program are testament to this commitment.

Prof. Goodwillie was honored by both faculty and graduate student colleagues in the department of Mathematics for his leadership in furthering the departmental engagement with pedagogy. A distinguished scholar, he took the time to actively mentor graduate TAs through a variety of activities which has inspired his colleagues. In particular, he was cited for the enormous effort he put into making the annual training program for Mathematics graduate TAs "serious", and for leading an ongoing departmental seminar on teaching. He was praised for his work with the introductory Calculus course (MA 9), where he put into practice what he preached. Not surprisingly, his commitment to the ongoing improvement in both teaching and research resulted in the NSF-VIGRE award to the Mathematics and Applied Mathematics departments.

The Advisory Board of the Sheridan Center honors each of these faculty colleagues for their support of teaching within their departments and for the example which they have clearly set for their colleagues across the University.