

Distinguished Professor Awards 2007-2009

*In recognition of their sustained excellence in
teaching effectiveness and service.*

Bridget Gourley, Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry

**Susan Hahn, Professor of English, Director of the Writing Center and
Associate Faculty Development Coordinator for the Writing Program**

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR AWARD RECIPIENTS:

Bridget L. Gourley, Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry, earned her B.S. in 1984 from University of Puget Sound and her Ph.D. in 1989 from University of Utah. She joined the faculty as Instructor in 1988, was promoted to Assistant Professor in 1989, to Associate Professor in 1994 and to Professor in 2003. She currently serves as Chair of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

She is known as a thoughtful, reflective teacher whose aim is to develop courses which are rigorous and challenging, while providing a nurturing learning environment. She uses many different approaches to help all students engage with the material. This includes active learning techniques and the use of technology.

Students speak highly of her challenging courses and her supervision of their research projects. One writes: "these activities would not be possible without an incredible amount of support and dedication from Dr. Gourley." Another former student, now in graduate school, writes "Dr. Gourley's Physical Chemistry course was without a doubt the hardest class I took during my career at DePauw...Dr. Gourley's teaching methods, lectures and assignments allowed me to truly understand the core of the subject... I owe a great deal of my preparedness and my development as a chemist to Dr. Bridget Gourley." Students also refer to her as an excellent mentor.

Her work in science education is nationally recognized. Jeanne Narum, Director of Project Kaleidoscope (PKAL) writes "Bridget is one of the most active F21 members of PKAL" and is "someone I can call on for leadership in PKAL." In addition to being a faculty leader in PKAL, Bridget has been very involved in leadership roles in the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) for more than a decade, most recently serving as the local organizer of the CUR 2006 National Conference held at DePauw.

She has demonstrated sustained excellence in service to her department, to the University and to the profession. She has been Director of the Women in Science Program and Director of the Science Research Fellows Program. She has also served for six years on the Faculty Development Committee. She was co-founder and multi-year leader of the DePauw Women in Science Program, helping to inaugurate and sustain the DePauw

Institute for Girls in Science. She co-organized the PKAL National Workshop on Women in Science held at DePauw in 1998. She served in the academic affairs office as Coordinator of the first-year advising program. She has also served on the Women's Studies Steering

Susan K. Hahn, Professor of English, Director of the Writing Center and Associate Faculty Development Coordinator for the Writing Program, received her B.A. in 1976 from Clarke College; her M.A. in 1978 from University of Northern Iowa; and Ph.D. in 1986 from University of California (Santa Barbara). She was appointed to DePauw as Director of the Writing Center and Associate Professor of English in 1996 and was promoted to Professor in 2004.

Her service to the University has been broad and very effective; it includes five years as a member of COF, which she also chaired, and two years as Associate Chair of the Department of English. In addition to her duties as Director of the Writing Center, she has served five years as Associate Faculty Development Coordinator for the Writing Program.

Students write of her teaching: "Dr. Hahn forever changed the way I sit down to write;" "I grew immensely as a writer;" "she challenged me to think more critically about literature, about the relationship between reading and writing, about my own writing." Students describe her as promoting relevant and challenging discussions. She is rigorous, but accessible. She is particularly effective in promoting interactive classroom activities, small group work and in-class writing assignments. These features combine to create a very effective learning environment.

Colleagues write: "She is unwavering in her professionalism;" "Susan is a tireless worker, a passionate advocate for writing in the University, for the department, the Women's Studies program and a willing leader in department, administrative and university-wide matters of debate."

As Director of the Writing Center, she has created a very effective environment for students to improve their writing. Student tutor/consultants speak highly of the training they receive and admire her philosophy of the center and of their responsibilities as tutors. Many of them have been inspired to pursue writing as a professional career. She has presented a variety of papers about the writing program at professional meetings.