Distinguished Faculty and Staff Awards

College of Liberal Arts - Instructor of the Year

The award was created in 2011. They are recognized during the commencement ceremony, have their names added to a plaque, and receive $1,000. Eligibility is limited to instructors, lecturers, senior lecturers, and instructional assistant professors.

- KATHERINE R FIELDS - INSTRUCTOR IN ART (2011)

College of Liberal Arts - Outstanding Teacher of the Year

In 1985, the College of Liberal Arts began this award to recognize faculty members who demonstrate excellence of class instruction, intellectual stimulation of students, and concern for students welfare.

- Matthew L Long - Professor of Art (2017)
- SHERI F RIETH - ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ART (2007)

Staff Council Award - EEO4

- MARILYN ELIZABETH ALLEN - SENIOR SECRETARY (2004)

Frist Service Award


College of Liberal Arts - Cora Lee Graham Outstanding Teaching of Freshmen

In 1984, Cora Lee Graham of Union City, Tennessee, established an endowment and directed that the proceeds from her gift be used to help retain your better professors who teach the freshman classes in the College of Liberal Arts.

- Joshua Kemp Brinlee - Associate Professor of Art (2016)
- Sarah Louisa Haney - TUTOR (2010)

Elsie M. Hood Outstanding Teacher Award

The Elsie M. Hood Outstanding Teacher of the Year for the University is selected from nominations submitted by students, alumni and faculty.


Hensley Family Senior Professor Research Award in the Fine and Performing Arts

Hensley Family Award in the Fine and Performing Arts is presented annually to an outstanding tenured faculty member. The award is given in recognition of sustained exemplary performance in creative achievement at the national/international level.

- Nancy L Wicker - Chair and Professor of Art History (2019)