

MSCF Minute



An electronic publication of the Minnesota State College Faculty

Allergy Season

by Kevin Lindstrom, MSCF President

It must be allergy season. At the very least the pollen count in the ballroom at the St. Paul Hotel must have been very high last Wednesday. Something has to explain all the watery eyes, mine included, in that room that day.

In reality it likely wasn't at all about the season or allergies. It more likely was about the event held in that room last Wednesday and the emotion associated with the annual Board of Trustees Awards for Excellence luncheon.

If you've never been, you have to figure out some way to get there. I've been to a few, and it just keeps getting better and better. Whoever came up with the idea for these awards and this event deserves a ton of credit.

This year four of our members were recognized as Educators of the Year: Gill Creel - MCTC, English; Maran Wolston - MCTC, Philosophy; Joan Bernard, Hennepin Tech, Computer Careers/Information Systems; and Kari Frisch - Central Lakes, Communications.

I learned a lot about each of the winners and the group collectively during the ceremony. I learned about how strongly they impact the lives of students, as evidenced by the students who introduced them. I learned about how they bring fun to the classroom. I learned about how they bring brilliance to the classroom. I learned about how they effectively use multiple modes of delivery to convey material to students. I learned about how they can't stop teaching, even while receiving an award. I learned about their extreme

professionalism. I learned about the critical roles their families play in their work. I learned that their passion can bring a room to tears.

While these four received the top awards, another 27 faculty were given awards as Outstanding Educators: James Andresen, Kirk Boraas, Matthew Borcharding, Jesse Breyer, Anne Byrd, Ruth Christensen, Pam Cummings, Mary R. Daunis, Janine Goenner, Mark Gucinski, Scott Gunderson, Steven Kovacic, Kathryn Kysar, Mark L. Larson, Kimball Loomis, Roberta Moorhouse, Amanda Olson, Richard Oxley, Patricia Pieper, Bridget Reigstad, Randal Renken, Laine Rieger, Kimberly Rowley, Amy Jo Swing, Susan Taylor, Michele Timp-Pilon, and Kent Voelkner.

Kudos also go to our members who serve on the Review Committee: Fran Bieganeck, Julie Daniels, Lutchmiparsad Hazareesingh, Craig Larson, Shannon Fiene, and Rik Stirling. They have the privilege of getting to see the excellence of our faculty first-hand through all the portfolios submitted, which also means they do a lot of work.

Celebrating excellence is a great way to bring the school year to a close. While the Awards for Excellence luncheon recognized these 31 very worthy individuals, it's widely understood that faculty excellence extends well beyond that relatively small group. Here's to all of you for all the excellent work you do throughout the year.

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Bargaining Dates Are Set!

Wed., May 17

Fri., June 2

Wed.-Thurs., June 7-8

Mon.-Tues., June 26-27

Thurs.-Fri., July 6-7

Wed.-Fri., July 26-28

For current bargaining updates, please contact the bargaining hotline at: 651-767-1276 or 866-208-8210

Welcome New Members!

Michael Alberti
Century

Joseph Nicola
Century

Joshua Woof
North Hennepin

Jessica Wendland
Ridgewater

Paul Williams
Riverland

Anthony Alfano
Saint Cloud

Tracy Dilly
Saint Cloud

Rebecca Freilingner
Saint Cloud