

Faculty members honored for excellence in teaching

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A dozen Alfred University faculty members were singled out for their distinguished work in the classroom and one was honored for a quarter-century of service during the University's annual spring Honors Convocation. Excellence in teaching award recipients are determined by a vote of AU faculty as well as members of the junior and senior classes. Selected as the John F. McMahon Ceramic Teaching Excellence Award winner for 2007 was Dr. Alexis G. Clare, professor of glass science in the Kazuo Inamori School of Engineering. The McMahon Award is limited to professors who teach biomedical materials science engineering, ceramic engineering, glass science or materials science. Clare joined the AU faculty in 1989. She earned a bachelor of science degree in chemical physics and a doctorate in physics, both from the University of Reading, United Kingdom. Andrew G. Eklund, assistant professor of chemistry, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, was awarded The Ruth Berger Rubenstein Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching. This is the highest honor bestowed on faculty who are in the colleges of Liberal Arts & Sciences and Business. Eklund joined the faculty in fall 2001. He has a bachelor of arts degree in chemistry from the College of Wooster, Ohio, and a Ph.D. in organometallic/inorganic chemistry from the University of California-Irvine. Recipients of The Joseph Kruson Trust Fund Awards for Excellence in Teaching for 2007 include: Dr. Wesley E. Bentz, professor of chemistry, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, who joined the faculty in 1970. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in chemistry from Whitman College, Walla Walla, WA, and a doctorate in organic chemistry from the University of Rochester. Dr. James F. Curl, professor of education, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, who joined the faculty in 1974. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in English from Davidson College, Charlotte, NC; a master of arts degree in English from Northwestern University, Chicago; and a master of education degree in counselor education and a Ph.D. in counselor education from the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Matthew M. Hall, assistant professor of biomaterials, Kazuo Inamori School of Engineering, who joined the faculty in 2003. He earned a bachelor of science degree in ceramic engineering from the University of Missouri-Rolla and a master of science degree and Ph.D. in glass science from Alfred University. Dr. Cris W. Lauback, assistant professor of school psychology, School of Liberal Arts & Sciences, who joined the AU community in 2005. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in social relations with a minor in education from Colgate University, Hamilton, and a master's degree, a certificate of advanced studies in school psychology, and a doctorate, all in school psychology, from Alfred University. Dr. J. Steven Mayes, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, Kazuo Inamori School of Engineering, who earned a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA; a master of science degree in structural engineering from George Washington University, Washington, D.C.; and a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from the University of Wyoming, Laramie. Dr. Mary D. McInnes, associate professor of art history, who earned a bachelor of arts degree in anthropology/practice of art at the University of California-Berkeley, and master of art and Ph.D. in the history of art from Boston University. Dr. Amy Rummel, professor of marketing, who joined the Alfred University faculty in 1990. She earned a bachelor of science degree from Juniata College, Huntingdon, PA, and a master of science degree and a Ph.D. in consumer behavior and marketing from Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. Dr. Melissa Ryan, assistant professor of English, who joined the AU faculty in fall 2004. She earned a bachelor of arts degree in literary studies from Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT, and a master of arts degree in English with a specialization in American literature, and a Ph.D. in English with a specialization in 19th and 20th-century American literature and culture, both from the University of Arizona, Tucson. Fred J. Tschida, professor of glass art, School of Art & Design, who has been at the University since 1977. He earned an associate in arts degree from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis; a bachelor of arts degree from St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN; and a master of fine arts degree from the University of Minnesota. Dr. James E. Shelby Jr., professor of glass science, was cited for 25 years of service. He has been the McMahon Professor of Ceramic Engineering since 1997. Since joining the faculty in 1982, he has solidified his position as an international authority on glass structure property relations. In addition to over 200 publications, he has authored two books and is a Fellow of the American Ceramic Society. He earned bachelor of science, master of science, and a doctorate, all in ceramic engineering and all from the University of Missouri-Rolla. D. Wayne Higby, professor of ceramics and the Robert C. Turner Chair, received the Joseph Kruson Faculty Award for Distinguished Service to Alfred University. This award is presented in recognition of long and dedicated service, commitment to academic quality, and the strong sense of humanity shown to students. He is widely respected by the campus community, which includes students who have judged him to be an

outstanding teacher, faculty colleagues, and members of the administration. A graduate of the University of Colorado at Boulder, where he earned a bachelor of fine arts degree, and the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where he obtained a master of fine arts degree, Higby has taught at Alfred University since 1973.