

**2009-10 OCUFA TEACHING AND
ACADEMIC LIBRARIANSHIP AWARDS
CITATION FOR ANDREA BUCHHOLZ**

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Read by Judith Poë, University of Toronto Mississauga

It is with great pleasure that the OCUFA Teaching and Academic Librarianship Awards Committee presents a 2010 OCUFA Teaching Award to Andrea Buchholz, Associate Professor in the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition in the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences at the University of Guelph. Her nominators describe Professor Buchholz as “that rare instructor who connects the prose of foundational content with her passion for teaching and her love of learning.”

Connection is a term that recurred in the letters of support for Andrea’s nomination. One writer said that she “roams the lecture theatre like an *avant garde* thespian...connecting with students in the far reaches of the room.” She connects students with each other through innovative group projects and through her use of “Letters to Next Year’s Class.” She connects with her colleagues informally as a valued mentor and more formally through LIT, the newly founded Leadership in Teaching Program, which is designed to promote educational leadership through faculty engagement in the scholarship of teaching and learning. She connects people with knowledge and people with people in communities of learning that she has helped create and sustain.

Andrea’s nominators also highlighted her integration of research and teaching at the undergraduate level. Her fourth-year thesis students have achieved a laudatory record of conference presentations and first-authored publications in refereed journals. As well she has a strong record of graduate student supervision, an experience which the students describe as “rigorous and challenging” with an advisor who is “warm, respectful, generous and always at the ready to help her students.”

Supporters also commented on the duality of Andrea as both professor and student. She has attended over 80 Teaching Support Services events some, as the presenter sharing her knowledge and experience, and others as the student seeking to improve and expand her teaching scholarship. This year, while on sabbatical, she will be formally returning to the classroom as a student to study Gross Human Anatomy and Physical Assessment for Nurses, expanding both her knowledge of content and of pedagogy in the process.

Among Andrea’s many talents noted in the letters from her students was her classroom performance. This strength may, in fact, be related to her other life in which she is a comedic improviser with Theatre on the Edge, a Waterloo based improv troupe. Students wrote “her uniquely developed presentation skills leaves her students enraptured by the material... her outstanding ability to communicate, along with her sense of humour when she teaches, ensures that she has 100% of all her students’ attention... during the first day of lecture, I immediately took notice of Dr. Buchholz’s enthusiasm and energy.”



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Andrea's teaching philosophy has been to provide students with the opportunity for "value-added learning" which she describes as "more than content and knowledge transfer." That she succeeds at this is reflected in the highest compliment from a student who wrote that she "is the one in a million professor who teaches so that people learn." And learning, of course, is what it is all about. It is a great pleasure to present Professor Buchholz with a 2010 OCUFA Teaching Award.