



# OCUFA

Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations  
Union des Associations des Professeurs des Universités de l'Ontario

## 2017-2018 OCUFA TEACHING AND ACADEMIC LIBRARIANSHIP AWARDS

CITATION FOR DR. DAVID HUTCHISON



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## **CITATION FOR DR. DAVID HUTCHISON**

*Prepared and read by Vincent Hui, Ryerson University*

On behalf of the Teaching and Academic Librarianship Awards Committee, I am delighted to present Dr. David Hutchison with a 2017-2018 award in recognition of his excellence in teaching. Where many exemplary faculty teach in the interest of conveying knowledge or preparation for particular industries, David has embraced an incredibly potent teaching philosophy embracing “disequilibrium... to challenge students to break out of habitual patterns of thinking and test their sometimes taken-for-granted perceptions about the world against the diverse experiences of others.” This successful questioning of the status quo is epitomized not only in his students’ accomplishments but in his own distinguished teaching career at Brock University.

Having both developed and taught several courses in Brock University, including one of the most popular electives in the Teacher Education Program, Dr. Hutchison receives exemplary teaching evaluations in courses ranging from traditional in-person and small group-based learning to online. His cumulative student evaluation of teaching average is 90%! This is on account of two critical pedagogical strategies that have characterized his teaching: collaboration and disequilibrium. By presenting students with project-based learning, his courses challenge them “to think outside our personal comfort levels” by understanding and collaborating with multiple stakeholders. This disequilibrium gives rise to a learning environment that stimulates creative and critical responses from students. The incredible success of the Brock University Design Studio (BUDS) service-learning program attests to this with student comments extolling his program as “the finest four



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years of my life” and colleagues describing his pedagogy as “innovating teaching for the 21st century learner.” It comes as no surprise that his teaching has merited distinction not only within Brock University but across the country.

Beyond compiling his teaching innovations in his nationally adopted books and online references, David has taken the initiative to provide leadership in teaching both within his campus and beyond. His roles as a past Chair of the Department of Teacher Education, Chancellor’s Chair for Teaching Excellence, or positions on various senate subcommittees attest to his commitment to teaching excellence in Brock while his role as co-Chair of Digital Scholarship Ontario demonstrates the impact of his teaching contributions. The collaborations David has undertaken have gone beyond the classroom to the benefit of his students. Whether in his role as the director of the Centre for Digital Humanities or the co-chair of the Digital Pedagogy Institute, David has constantly drawn insights from others to reinvigorate his own curriculum as well as share his own experiences and best practices.

David Hutchison is literally a teacher’s teacher. His outstanding teaching is best reflected in a quote from one of his students who followed her mentor in a career in education: “I blame this entirely on David; his creativity and pedagogical energy are contagious.” Please join me in congratulating Dr. David Hutchison as one of the recipients of the 2017-18 OCUFA Teaching Award.