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Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations
Union des associations des professeurs des universités de l'Ontario

2021-2022 OCUFA Teaching Award

Citation for Dr. Marylynn Steckley



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Read by

Dora Cavallo-Medved, OCUFA Teaching and Academic Librarianship Awards
Committee Co-Chair

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Committee Member

On behalf of the Teaching and Academic Librarianship Awards Committee, we are honoured to recognize Dr. Marylynn Steckley as a 2021-2022 OCUFA Teaching Award recipient. Dr. Steckley is a professor in the Faculty of Public Affairs/Bachelor of Global and International Studies at Carleton University. Dr. Steckley has been described as a pioneer in experiential and online learning; an innovator and creator in student engagement and an advocate for students' finding their voice in and out of the classroom.

Dr. Steckley teaches her students to be people who care and who will be motivated to take action. In her words, "...when learning is energizing, when creativity is nourished, and when students feel secure in their learning environment, we ignite the potential for a better society." Through various engaging classroom activities, flexible assignments, and constant feedback, Dr. Steckley inspires her learners to apply what they learn to their own lives and become stewards of the world. From advocacy projects to short films to data analysis, Dr. Steckley provides opportunities for her students to explore misconceptions, tackle realistic problems, and share ideas with openness and curiosity. As one of her former students describes, "Dr. Steckley designed her classroom so that all her students could thrive. There were so many different opportunities for students to show their knowledge, demonstrate their engagement, share stories, and generally get excited about the content."

Dr. Steckley also mentors and supervises students and collaborates with the Students as Partners Program at Carleton. Internationally, Dr. Steckley is supervising students from Haiti, tackling big issues such as exploring equity,



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diversity, and inclusion in and out of the classroom, or work on gender and food security in Haiti. And the outcomes of their work have captured a Global Affairs Canada Faculty Mobility Grant. As Dr. Steckley explains: “Helping students expand their perspectives, realize their potential, and imagine themselves in places and positions that they might not have otherwise is one of the most joyful opportunities of my teaching.” Dr. Steckley has also developed the first ever “e-volunteering” program and international virtual experiential learning course, called “Craft as a Global Social Relation.” Students connect and volunteer with global partners through workshops with artists and creators.

Dr. Steckley’s dedication as an educator has also been recognized through several internal awards at Carleton University. Please join me today in congratulating Dr. Marylynn Steckley as one of the 2021-2022 OCUFA Teaching Award recipients.



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Every year since 1973, the OCUFA Teaching and Academic Librarianship awards have honoured the exceptional achievements made by Ontario university teachers and academic librarians.

At OCUFA, we believe that the quality of education at our universities depends on the professors and academic librarians whose teaching and work touches the life of every student who embarks on a journey of higher learning.

Professors and academic librarians play a vital role in our universities, preparing students for the challenges of tomorrow, while pursuing the new ideas and knowledge that enrich all of our lives and chart a path to a brighter future.

