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2012 faculty/staff awards presented at Andrews

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On Sunday, March 4, at the annual faculty/staff awards night, Ante Jeroncic was the recipient of the Spiritual Life Award, which recognizes his significant contribution to the spiritual life on campus. He has taught at Andrews since 2006.

2012 faculty/staff awards presented at Andrews

The annual faculty/staff awards night, “Celebrating Excellence at Andrews University,” was held Sunday, March 4, at the Howard Performing Arts Center. Alayne Thorpe, dean of the School of Distance Education, served as emcee for the night. “You may be surprised to see me up here because I’m a newbie,” Thorpe said, “but that’s indicative of how welcoming Andrews is.” She then gave special note to the Years of Service awardees in the five-, 10-, 15-, 20- and 25-year categories who, together, have dedicated a total of 1,250 years of service to the University.

The Siegfried H. Horn Excellence in Research and Creative Scholarship Award was established to recognize the lifetime scholarship achievement of University faculty members. This year’s recipients were: Steve Hansen, professor of art for the area of Arts, Humanities & Education; Duane McBride, research professor of sociology and chair of the Department of Behavioral

Sciences, for the area of Professional Programs; Jiri Moskala, professor of Old Testament Exegesis and Theology, for the area of Religion & Theology; and Curtis VanderWaal, research professor of social work and chair of the Department of Social Work for the area of Pure and Applied Science.

The Staff Excellence in Service Award is given in recognition of outstanding service to the University, the church and the community, and for demonstrating, by precept and example, a Christ-centered life. This year’s recipients were Marvin Budd, database administrator, ITS; Mimi Weithers-Bruce, assistant to the provost, Office of the Provost; and Dean Snow, manager, Custodial Services.

Eight faculty members received the Daniel A. Augsburg Excellence in Teaching Award. This award recognizes faculty whose teaching reflects the high standards of excellence modeled by Daniel A. Augsburg in his 60 years of teaching at Andrews University. This year’s recipients were: Rudi Bailey, professor of educational psychology, school psychology & special education; Bruce Bauer, professor of world mission;

José Goris, professor of management; Herbert Helm, professor of psychology; Marcia Kilsby, associate professor of medical laboratory sciences; Glenn Russell, assistant professor of religion; Martin Smith, assistant professor of architecture; and Tiffany Summerscales, assistant professor of physics.

Spiritual Life Award

The Spiritual Life Award, which recognizes an individual who has made a significant contribution to the spiritual life of campus, went to Ante Jeroncic, assistant professor of theology. His commitment to scholastic excellence encourages his students to emulate him. A student says, “Dr. Jeroncic is one of the most important influences on the formation of my spiritual and intellectual self. His challenge to students to investigate why they hold their beliefs significantly impacted my conversion to Christianity by showing the way to a Christ-centered hermeneutic without pushing me away. Intellectually, he expected me to achieve my full potential and expected nothing less. This helped me improve greatly as both a thinker and a believer.”

Two individuals were recognized with a 35 Years of Service Award: Thomas Baker, faculty at Andrews Academy; and Joseph Warren, professor of English.

Four individuals were recognized with a 30 Years of Service Award: Ruth Gardner, manager and postmaster of Central Mail Service at Andrews University; Tari Popp, director of the Office of Planned Giving & Trust Services; Jeane Robinson, purchasing; and Robert Schwab, professor of management, department chair and graduate advisor in the School of Business Administration.

Keri Suarez, media relations specialist, Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication, Andrews University

Note: For the full faculty/staff awards story on the Andrews University website, see http://www.andrews.edu/news/2012/03/awards_night.html.