LUROP Distinguished Mentor Award

All of the 2010-2011 nominees had inspiring nominations and mentor statements that spoke to the truly transformative impact these mentors have on our undergraduate researchers. We congratulate all of them on this honor.

The LUROP Distinguished Mentor Award has been established to recognize and reward the exceptional work of Loyola’s faculty, staff, and graduate-student mentors who are contributing significant time and effort to the intellectual, ethical, and academic development of Loyola’s undergraduate researchers by mentoring their research endeavors.

Each year, LUROP grants two awards, selected from applications that include student nominations and statements from nominated mentors. The $750 award is to be used to further the mentors' research projects and/or undergraduate research mentoring.

2010-2011 Recipients

Catherine Putonti
Biology and Computer Science

Christine Li-Grining
Psychology

Honorable Mention

Daniel Becker, Chemistry
Jacob Ciszek, Chemistry
Bonnie Essner, PhD student in Psychology
Tracy DeHart, Psychology
Jeffrey Doering, Biology
Kathleen Kannass, Psychology
Louis Lucas, Biology
Robert Morrison, Psychology
F. Bryan Pickett, Biology
Julia Pryce, School of Social Work
Rhonda Quinn, Anthropology
Quotes from Student Nominations for LUROP Faculty Mentor Award

“Dr. Becker has not only had a positive influence on my undergraduate research, but he has also enhanced my confidence and potential for professional success.”

“It was with Professor Ciszek’s belief in my abilities as well as his effort to help me get into a program that I knew I would be able to pursue my dream of higher education.”

“Bonnie Essner contributed to my intellectual and academic development by exposing me to different research topics.”

“Dr. DeHart promotes academic, intellectual and ethical development by being a role model and educator through her research.”

“Dr. Doering’s confidence in me has allowed me to mature as a student and as a person.”

“Dr. Kannass has worked very closely with me in order to help me appreciate the research I am doing, and I am very thankful for this.”

“A true mentor not only shows a student how to conduct research, but how to be a humble and kind researcher. Prof. Li-Grining possesses all of these characteristics and is an exemplary example of who I want to be as a researcher.”

“A scientific seed of excitement is planted in each of his students…Dr. Lucas helps shape undergraduates into better, more independent and well-rounded students.”

“Working alongside Dr. Morrison for the past year has allowed me to see the vast amount of time and effort that he dedicates to his research and to the individuals who are helping to conduct it.”

“It is selflessness that has made Dr. Pickett one of the most influential reasons that I am preparing to move on to graduate school…He is always encouraging, never negative.”

“Dr. Putonti deserves to be recognized with a LUROP Distinguished Mentor Award because she has done much more than guide us in conducting our research. As my mentor and as many other students’ mentor, she has helped us make huge life decisions.”

“Dr. Pryce bridged the gap between where we were in terms of learning, and what knowledge and skills we want to acquire personally and professionally. Dr. Pryce represents dedication to justice, knowledge, and interpersonal understanding.”

“Her contribution has been simply and undeniably foundational. Because of Dr. Quinn’s commitment to my growth, I know I will leave Loyola this spring with not only a strong foundation in research process but with the essential knowledge of what it means to make a research project my own, from the initial question to the final conclusion.”

Loyola Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, Center for Experiential Learning
Experience with Direction.  www.luc.edu/experiential