

It's a real delight to present our final award, the **University Honors Program Faculty Award**.

Graduating honors students were invited to nominate an honors faculty member who had the most significant influence on their collegiate experience. Selection criteria included the ability to cultivate motivation, intellectual curiosity, creativity, critical thinking, a global perspective, and an attuned moral compass in students.

[This year's Faculty Award is presented to Dr. Elisa Sobo, professor of Anthropology.](#)

Dr. Sobo, nominations indicated that our students were invigorated by your discussions regarding how the world we come from, the world we live in, and the world we are creating affects humankind as a species. Your passion for creating leaders, incorporating cross-cultural perspectives, and tailoring curricula elevates minds in ways that better ensure success and growth in an ever-changing and complex world. Your noteworthy contribution to the honors experience has been encouraging students to think and learn in dynamic ways that embody the human experience through innovative classroom activities and collective exercises. As one student noted, "She has been the key inspiration in my academic life. She is always supporting new ideas, she always puts students first, and she always finds ways for her students to come to their full potential. She has tremendous amounts of enthusiasm and gives life to academic learning and research in a way that goes above anything else I have seen in my academic career."

This award recognizes your distinguished career as a scholar and teacher, and also to your dedication to students and to the culture of excellence on campus.

As part of receiving this award, we asked Dr. Sobo if she would provide a faculty address to the graduating students and she graciously agreed. So, please join me in welcoming and celebrating Dr. Sobo.