The Faculty Excellence Award in Advising recognizes a faculty advisor who embodies the qualities of effective and caring concern for student academic progress. This award is presented to

Diane Harney
Associate Professor of Communication

Advising is a craft, and perhaps the best description of how Dr. Harney practices that craft comes from a colleague who writes that when it comes to advising, Diane effectively combines rigor with mercy for her students. She holds students accountable for their choices even when those choices are unfortunate, but she is quick to seek solutions, be a sounding board, or advocate on their behalf. With an advising load that typically varies between 25 and 50 students, her students and former students nonetheless speak of how she has come to know them well as individuals. She teaches her students how to monitor their own progress while taking the time to learn about their academic goals and their career plans. One of her former students writes that as a student-athlete she always appreciated seeing Professor Harney at games and other events, but also appreciates how Diane gave her the confidence and tools to succeed in her profession today. A former colleague writes of how “Diane’s career extends far beyond the immediacy of the classroom or the challenges of helping students navigate a difficult curriculum. Her ethos is one of coaching students to find their vocation” while providing the support of the university’s resources to help them succeed.

For her caring concern for our students’ academic progress, we offer our congratulations to Diane Harney.

On behalf of the Faculty of Pacific Lutheran University, we offer our congratulations to Diane Harney on being the 2014-2015 recipient of the Faculty Excellence Award for Advising.