

Mortar Board continues awards for top professors

■ To receive recognition, teachers must go out of their way to connect with students.

By ANNE HEITZ
Staff Reporter

For more than a year, UNL's Mortar Board has offered students the chance to give their admired professors a show of recognition. But that opportunity has been unused until this year.

Outstanding professors can be recognized for inspiring lectures and exceptional teaching abilities through Mortar Board's Professor of the Month award, said Michele Decker, current officer of the Mortar Board National Honor Society.

So far this semester, two people have been awarded Professor of the Month by Mortar Board.

"I don't think the students really knew much about the contest," Decker said.

The group didn't publicize the award much last year, which resulted in a lack of nominations. This year, the group is trying to promote the award in hopes of getting a lot of participation from University of Nebraska-Lincoln students.

Involvement

“Students admire a professor who emphasizes class interaction ...”

MICHELE DECKER
Mortar Board officer

Decker said students have responded more this year than last year, possibly because more information has been posted about the award. For September, Jeff Spinner-Halev, a professor of political science, received the award.

"I was very surprised and honored," said Spinner-Halev, who received the award for his Political Science 483 class. "Teaching is one of our primary missions at UNL, and it's important for students to have a role in acknowledging certain professors."

Russ Ganim received the award for October for his French 321 class.

"I was very happy and very moved. There is no bigger satisfaction than knowing that the

students respond to our teaching. It's important to get student input.

"Their voices should be heard," he said.

Nominations have been received for November, but no decision has been made.

Even though there wasn't much response last year, the group wasn't discouraged from deciding to continue the tradition, Decker said.

"I think it's important to recognize the teachers on campus," Decker said. "Our group stands for scholarship, leadership, and service. If it wasn't for the teachers, we wouldn't be the group that we are today."

In order for a student's favorite professor to be recognized, a short application must be filled out and returned to the Office for Student Involvement.

It involves a brief essay concerning the reasons the student feels the professor should receive the award. All nominations will be considered for the award, and Mortar Board will make its selections based on the responses they receive.

Decker said Mortar Board is looking for professors who "go out of their way to teach the students, someone who can be a friend as well as a professor."

"Students admire a professor who emphasizes class interaction and makes learning fun."

V.E.G.G.I.N plans new holiday recipe book

HOLIDAY from page 1

tional foods might help family members relate to vegetarians.

When Reed-Klein goes to her family's house now, she brings her own dishes to share with her family.

"I kind of have an international flavor," Reed-Klein said. She often cooks stir-fries and other ethnic dishes to share. She also brings traditional food like pumpkin pie cooked without eggs. "It tastes the same, but it has 2 grams of fat instead of 50."

Wilhelm said she thinks that there are plenty of other options at Thanksgiving dinner. Her favorites include cranberry salad, Stove-Top stuffing, mashed potatoes and homemade bread. Reed-Klein also has her favorites: mashed potatoes and a special homemade mushroom gravy to top them.

"People always think that you are going to go hungry. They think all you can do is eat salads," Reed-Klein said, but stressed that this is far from true. She said most vegetarian dishes actually have more variety and contain more real food.

Reed-Klein said she encourages those who expect food dilemmas during the holidays to come to the Environmental Resource Center for tips on how to deal with family members who may be offended about skipping out on turkey tradition.

"There are a lot of positive things that you can do without offending family and friends. They are weird at first, but if you aren't militant, it will go a lot easier."

Next year V.E.G.G.I.N. plans to put

“People always think that you are going to go hungry.”

CAROL REED-KLEIN
V.E.G.G.I.N. vice president

out a recipe book that will include winning recipes from its annual Thanksgiving dinner contest. Members bring dishes to compete in different categories as well as to share in the dinner.

A vegetarian Thanksgiving home page at <http://www.boutell.com/vegetarian/Thanksgiving.html> includes recipes for traditional favorites, such as pumpkin pie and gravy, as well as recipes to suit those with a flavor for the untraditional, like a nut roast.

As far as the tradition goes, Wilhelm said she doesn't think she is missing anything.

"I don't really understand the tradition of turkey."

Both think it is important to respect their families though.

"You don't have to preach or lecture doing this isn't the way," Reed-Klein said. She respects her family's desire to celebrate with the traditional entree and their tastes for meat.

Wilhelm agrees.

"Once I am out on my own, I will begin to cook things that I like. As of now, I know that that is their tradition."

RESPONSIBILITY

<p style="text-align: center;">The Men of Phi Kappa Psi</p> <p>would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please drink responsibly and designate a driver.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The men of Alpha Gamma Rho</p> <p>urge you to act responsibly & have a safe holiday season.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Health Center Advisory Board urges you to celebrate responsibly this holiday season.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Farmhouse would like to wish the entire UNL campus and the Lincoln community a safe & happy holiday season.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">The ladies of Alpha Chi Omega</p> <p>encourage you to celebrate responsibly.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The ladies of Delta Tau Delta</p> <p>wish everyone at UNL a great holiday season! Celebrate this year with style.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Party it up, but drink responsibly. Drive home safely.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sigma Phi Epsilon</p> <p>encourages you to act responsibly during the holiday season.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The ladies of Alpha Omicron Pi</p> <p>remind you to celebrate responsibly. Think before you drink.</p>
<div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 5px;">MAJORITY RULES!</div> <p>MOST UNL students (74%) drink 5 or fewer drinks* when they "party."</p> <p>MOST UNL students did not damage property (87%) or cause physical harm to self (91%) as a consequence of drinking.</p> <p>MOST UNL students do not drive after drinking (75%).</p> <p>MOST UNL students (75%) have volunteered to be a designated driver for their friends.</p> <p><small>*A DRINK = a bottle of beer or a glass of wine or a wine cooler or a shot of liquor or a mixed drink</small></p>			
<p style="text-align: center;">THE MEN OF ALPHA TAU OMEGA</p> <p>WISH YOU A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY. PLEASE THINK BEFORE YOU DRINK.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">The Staff of the Daily Nebraskan</p> <p>Wish you a Safe and Happy Holiday Season.</p>	
<div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 10px;">DRINK RESPONSIBLY</div> <div style="float: right; border: 2px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; text-align: center; width: 100px; height: 100px; line-height: 100px;"> KNOW WHEN TO SAY WHEN </div> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;"> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">THINK WHEN YOU DRINK</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">Anheuser-Busch, Inc.</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">ONE OF THE ANHEUSER-BUSCH COMPANIES</p> </div>			

Brought to you by Project CARE and Party Smart. For more information call 472-7440.