

The Distinguished Teacher Award is given to a psychologist who has a distinguished record of teaching in any area of psychology and holds a full-time academic or scientific position. Awardee receives a certificate and can select a graduate student to receive a \$300 scholarship in the award recipient's honor.



2019 Winner - Daniel Mahoney, EdD

I want to thank so many people for this award. First, the NJPA Academic and Scientific Affairs Committee for this acknowledgement and in particular, Dr. Francine Conway for her work as the chair of the committee. Next, I want to thank the administration of Felician University for their support and encouragement in helping me initiate and grow both a MA program in Counseling and currently our Psy.D. program in Counseling Psychology. Dr. George Abaunza as the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences has contributed his energy and support during the creation of the program and through our accreditation process for APA which will lead to a site visit in the spring semester. I want to thank Dr. Sylvia McGeary who as the Vice President of Academic Affairs for Felician University has always been supportive and encouraging. I want to note that whenever I am facing a difficult issue or decision I can count on an affirming email from Sylvia which are much appreciated.

I want to thank my faculty who are an incredible group of people. Drs. Lau and Rengifo are incredibly hard working and dedicated. I have learned so much from them over the last few years that has made me a better teacher and more understanding administrator. I am also blessed to have colleagues in the MA program that have made the program a highly successful and sought after training program. In particular, a special thanks to Dr. Melany Rivera-Maldonado, who succeeded me as the program director, has done an incredible job in making the program better.

I also want to thank my students. I have learned so much from them over the years and each day I learn something new. My students represent a highly diverse group from whom I have learned so much about their experiences of the world and their growth as clinicians in formation. I especially want to thank Brittany Perri who was chosen to be the recipient of the scholarship that accompanies my award. Brittany is incredibly intelligent, hardworking and respected by her peers. When I asked the faculty and students for possible students to receive this award there was a unanimous consensus that it should go to Brittany. Thank you Brittany for all you do.

I also want to thank my family for their unending support and encouragement. Teaching is a family enterprise with my older daughter and wife being educators and dedicated to their profession. I have been inspired by their work and dedication.

One more thought, I want to thank so many of the professors who have shaped me to be the professor I am today. At Teachers College, Columbia University Dr. Jean Pierre Jordaan was my dissertation advisor and he was a role model in that his encyclopedic knowledge and Socratic style served to inspire me and to drive me to complete my dissertation. Dr. Roger Meyers, was the Program Director at TC and always had a quip to make the moment. I often quote him and his pearls of wisdom. For instance he always reassured the students that a dissertation was, "Any document you can get five faculty to agree is a dissertation". Also at TC was Dr. Patricia Raskin who was my advisor and clinical supervisor. She was always available and easy to talk to and get guidance and support. During my psychoanalytic training I was moved by so many of the faculty and fellow students. I wish to thank Dr. George Atwood for his kindness and incredible intellectual openness and availability. Dr. Donna Orange who as a clinical supervisor helped make me a better teacher. Dr. Howard Bacal who lead me to expand my clinical understanding in so many ways. And Dr. Frank Lachman who was an inspiration and intellectually curious in so many areas. Thank you all for this award.