

Thursday, June 6, 2024

MacEwan University announces the 2024 Early Career Teaching Excellence Award and Teaching Leadership Award recipients

Edmonton - MacEwan University's [Teaching Awards](#) celebrate faculty members who provide exceptional learning environments for their students. This year, three faculty members will receive the Early Career Teaching Excellence Award, and one will receive the Teaching Leadership Award.

"These awards allow us to celebrate the faculty members who are just starting their careers and are already exemplifying the greatness that MacEwan stands for, as well as those who are setting trends and helping their fellow faculty members to succeed in new ways," says Dr. Craig Monk, provost and vice-president, Academic. "We're excited to be able to present these hard-working faculty members with the recognition they deserve."

The awards will be presented as part of the [Spring Convocation](#) ceremonies from June 18 to 20 at the Winspear Centre.

Meet the recipients

Early Career Teaching Excellence Awards

The Early Career Teaching Excellence Award recognizes outstanding contributions to teaching undertaken by new instructional faculty members.



Sheena Rossiter
Assistant professor, communication

Beginning her MacEwan teaching career as a sessional instructor in 2019, [Sheena Rossiter](#) continues to show her dedication to her students in her role as an assistant professor and head of media production. She provides her students with hands-on learning opportunities that reflect the real-world environments they'll be entering when they graduate. Students in her classrooms encounter a collaborative environment with a focus on equity, diversity and inclusion. Rossiter has personally mentored 40 students through internships and other projects in the university's TV studio since beginning her position as an assistant professor, and she has also sought personal mentorship from other MacEwan professors to ensure she's on track to become the type of faculty leader she aspires to be.



Padraig Buttner-Schnirer
Assistant professor, music

An award-winning and JUNO-nominated producer and sound engineer, [Padraig Buttner-Schnirer](#) began his MacEwan teaching career in 2019 at the launch of the recording and production major in the Bachelor of Music program. He provides work-integrated learning opportunities and engages students by tailoring lessons and assignments to fit their interests. Padraig also partners with professional musicians, recording studios, and MacEwan's own Bent River Records to provide hands-on experience and internships for his students.



Dr. Kaitlyn Towle
Assistant professor, chemistry

[Dr. Kaitlyn Towle](#) wants her students to embrace their mistakes as tools for learning. She creates a safe environment for students to try – and sometimes fail – and to grow from the experience. She has worked to evaluate the scope and sequence of the introductory chemistry curriculum through a comparative analysis of similar programs across Canada. Through this research, she hopes to contribute to the design of new course formats that will help address the sequencing within the current chemistry program. She is also helping to proactively plan for the growth of our student population through the development of new dry laboratory experiments that will allow for increased student enrollment within introductory chemistry and help ensure that students have the best possible experience.

Teaching Leadership Award

The Teaching Leadership Award recognizes outstanding leadership and commitment to improving teaching and learning experiences at an institutional, disciplinary, community or societal level.



Dr. Mike Annett
Associate professor, management and organizations

Recently named associate dean of the School of Business, [Dr. Mike Annett](#) has spent most of his MacEwan career working to improve programming, and sharing what he's learned with others. Prior to becoming department chair, he served as committee chair of the faculty group reviewing the Bachelor of Commerce degree, and while department chair he reignited the property management minor – not only by developing work-integrated learning opportunities and community partnerships, but also by engaging a marketing research class in developing methods to increase awareness of the minor. Dr. Annett sits on the executive board of the North American Case Research Association and serves as associate editor for *The CASE Journal* (Emerald) where he helps others to publish their work, providing resources for other instructors.

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Founded in 1971, MacEwan University inspires its students with a powerful combination of academic excellence and personal learning experiences. Offering more than 90 programs including undergraduate degrees, applied degrees, diplomas, certificates, continuing education and corporate training, the university provides a transformative education in a creative, collaborative and supportive learning



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environment where creativity and innovation thrive. Located in Edmonton, Alberta Canada, MacEwan University offers a unique student experience that opens up diverse pathways for achievement and growth.