We are pleased to announce that six Mason faculty members have been nominated for the 2010 SCHEV Outstanding Faculty Award. These awards recognize superior accomplishments in teaching, research, and public service and are the Commonwealth’s highest honor for faculty at Virginia’s institutes of higher education. Congratulations and good luck to each of our nominees—recipients will be notified in January.

- Todd Kashdan, Psychology, early career Rising Star Award (CHSS)
- Kevin Clark, College of Education and Human Development, Teaching with Technology Outstanding Faculty Award (CEHD)
- Kenneth J. Hintz, Electrical and Computer Engineering (VSITE)
- Jefferson Offutt, Computer Science (VSITE)
- Margo Mastroperieri, College of Education and Human Development (CEHD)
- Carol Mattusch, History and Art History (CHSS)

**2010 SCHEV Outstanding Faculty Awards**

We are pleased to announce that six Mason faculty members have been nominated for the 2010 SCHEV Outstanding Faculty Award. These awards recognize superior accomplishments in teaching, research, and public service and are the Commonwealth’s highest honor for faculty at Virginia’s institutes of higher education. Congratulations and good luck to each of our nominees—recipients will be notified in January.

- Todd Kashdan, Psychology, early career Rising Star Award (CHSS)
- Kevin Clark, College of Education and Human Development, Teaching with Technology Outstanding Faculty Award (CEHD)
- Kenneth J. Hintz, Electrical and Computer Engineering (VSITE)
- Jefferson Offutt, Computer Science (VSITE)
- Margo Mastroperieri, College of Education and Human Development (CEHD)
- Carol Mattusch, History and Art History (CHSS)

**2009 Teaching Excellence Award Winners**

The Provost and the CTE are proud to announce the 2009 Teaching Excellence Award winners. Recipients for this year’s awards are:

- Pamela Hudson Baker (CEHD)
- Karen Hallows (FNAN)
- Kumar Mehta (ISOM)
- Linda Monson (MUSI)
- Chawky Frenn General Education (AVT)
- Esperanza Roman-Mendoza Teaching with Technology (MCL)
- Debra Bergoffen David J. King Award (PHIL)

We thank the over 200 graduate student and faculty participants who helped make the conference a place of high energy and enthusiasm about teaching and learning. The Center is grateful for the assistance of the CTE Coordinating Circle, and particularly Shelley Reid, the Conference Co-Coordinator, whose time and enthusiasm helped make this event a resounding success!
The topic of our QEP is to foster a culture of scholarship and creative activity between students and faculty by engaging departments across the institution in disciplinary, interdisciplinary, and co-curricular inquiry, exploration, and activities.

In order to be successful, we need the support and participation of the entire Mason community. Get involved by visiting the QEP Café (masonqep.onmason.com), sharing your ideas, and visiting the QEP website (qep.gmu.edu).

For those who are just learning about it, the QEP is a five-year plan that engages the entire Mason community in addressing a well-defined topic that will significantly enhance undergraduate student learning and strengthen the student experience.

Website Updates

We recently added three new exciting features to our website (cte.gmu.edu). All of our resources are continuously updated, and we welcome your comments and suggestions for making them more comprehensive.

The Teaching in the Disciplines resource is a collection of links to major peer-reviewed journals that focus on education in the disciplines and to teaching resources from professional organizations that have been recommended by our faculty and others in the field. You can access this resource by visiting (http://cte.gmu.edu/Teaching/teaching_discipline.html).

The Graduate Teaching Assistantships resource provides guidelines and useful information for Mason GTAs. You can access this resource by visiting (http://cte.gmu.edu/Teaching_at_Mason/graduate_assistantships.html).

The Department Chair Resources page was developed in collaboration with the Office of the Provost and Human Resources & Payroll. This page is for both new and experienced department chairs and program directors, offering links to key university resources, along with resources for budgeting, hiring, and supporting teaching and research. You can access this resource by visiting (http://cte.gmu.edu/dept_chair/index.html).

Teaching Tips: Finishing Your Course on a High Note!

The CTE website offers a great variety of teaching tips and strategies that are easily adaptable to any course and level. As we get closer to the end of the semester, here are a few tips to keep in mind:

- Let students know before the final assessment (e.g., exam, paper, etc.) where they stand and what they need to do to achieve a higher grade.
- Communicate your appreciation for what students have learned and accomplished. Point out the ways in which the course facilitated that learning.
- Thank students for the opportunity to work with them; tell students how their feedback will be used to modify your teaching next semester.
- Keep any thank you cards and emails from students in a file; these will be useful evidence later for your teaching portfolio.
- Congratulate yourself on your successes in the classroom and reflect on what you have learned from things that did not go quite the way you expected. Use this learning to adjust your approach and inspire you for next semester.
- Be patient with yourself. It can take a while to explore and cultivate your teaching persona; it is important to find the balance among confidence, authenticity, and creativity.

For tips on ways to make your next semester easier, visit our website at (http://cte.gmu.edu/Teaching/next_semester.html)!