

**NOMINATION OF
WAYNE W. WINTER
FOR THE
CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
TO AN ACADEMIC NON-REGULAR**

Nominator: Mary Beth Mohrman
Associate Professor of Accounting
Accounting Area Coordinator
College of Business Administration
1201 SSB Tower
516-5524
mohrman@umsl.edu

Nominee: Wayne W. Winter
Instructor in Business Law
Area Coordinator for Business Law
227 Computer Center Building
516-6283
wayne.winter@umsl.edu



April 14, 2006

UM-St. Louis Senate Committee for Faculty Teaching and Service Awards
Woods Hall

Dear Colleagues:

It is my pleasure to nominate Wayne W. Winter for the Chancellor's Award for Excellence to an Academic Non-Regular.

Mr. Winter has been an Instructor in the College of Business Administration since 1977. He currently teaches BA 2900, Legal Environment of Business, BA5900, Law, Ethics and Business, and this year he developed a new course, Topics in Accounting and the Law. In addition, he teaches in the summer and in the Professional MBA program. In a typical year, he teaches approximately 500 students.

In addition to his classroom responsibilities, Wayne serves as area coordinator of the Business Law and communications area in the College of Business Administration. He serves on the Faculty Policy Committee and on the Undergraduate Studies Committee.

Many non-tenure track faculty members with such large teaching loads will sacrifice quality in order to serve so many students. Wayne does not. He maintains high academic standards, teaches challenging courses, learns every student's name, visits with and mentors his students outside of class, and loves every minute of it. He recently told me, "I have the best job in the world." I see that he has reiterated that sentiment in his Statement of Teaching Philosophy. He means it. Every time I talk to Wayne about teaching I am inspired to do a better job in the classroom.

Many college graduates can fondly remember a professor who challenged them, inspired them, and helped them to accomplish more than they thought they could. For many UM-St. Louis students, that professor is Wayne Winter. His effect on students is clear from the attached letters. Some of his current students say:

“Professor Winter’s exams are among the most difficult I have ever taken. His class challenged me to re-examine things I previously believed I had already decided. He made me laugh; he made me cry; above all he encouraged me to learn.” (Sandra Macke)

“It takes a special person to teach the leaders of tomorrow. Mr. Winter sacrifices his time and effort and I believe he wouldn’t have it any other way. He challenges our minds and provokes thought. Mr. Winter leaves a lasting impression with any student who has had him as a professor.” (David Fulkerson)

“I work full-time (8:00 – 5:00pm) and then I commute to his class for another 3 hours. This might seem like a heavy load but I look forward to every Tuesday night because I know I’m going to learn a lot about issues in business that will help me further on in my career. I’m even thinking about going to law school now.” (Bre Carlson)

Wayne’s students remember him long after they have left UM- St. Louis. Some of his former students say:

“Professor Winter’s approach to business law and his obvious love of the legal profession ignited an interest in the law for me and resulted in my attending St. Louis University School of Law. Many business people and lawyers are able to look back to a defining moment in which they were inspired to take a specific course in their career. I look back to that class in 1974 from Professor Winter as the critical link in my business law professional career.” (Joseph Porter, BSBA 1976, Polsinelli Shalton Welte Suelthaus PC, managing partner of St. Louis office).

“Professor Winter was a concerned, caring and capable teacher who influenced me in important areas of critical thinking, ethics and, most importantly, compassion. Interestingly, there have been countless times in my professional career (that now spans almost 30 years) in which I reflect back on lessons learned in his class. In these days of continuous ethics lapses in the corporate world, his guidance in my formative years provided an invaluable foundation for my career.” (Jeffrey Gaia, BSBA 1976, Chairman and Chief Executive, Biltmore Bank of Arizona)

In addition, Wayne has earned the respect of his colleagues:

“He is demanding. In an era of grade inflation and dumbed-down courses, he remains steadfast to his conviction that students do not benefit from being coddled.” (Jim Breaugh, Professor of Management)

“Wayne Winter wants students to learn. He challenges them to use the intellectual abilities they have, even if that means pushing them beyond their comfort zone. Though Mr. Winter is considered a non-regular faculty member, he displays

qualities that we attribute to the best faculty, regardless of personnel classification.” (Timothy Farmer, Associate Professor of Accounting)

“As a former dean, I would also like to emphasize that all too often faculty relax their grading standards in line with the present thinking that “students are customers.” ... Wayne’s evaluations ... are excellent even though 1) he is a hard grader and students are aware of this at the time evaluations are filled out; and 2) students perceive his courses as being difficult.” (Robert M. Nauss, Professor of Management Science, former Dean of College of Business Administration)

To his current students, former students and colleagues, Wayne Winter is a teacher, friend, mentor and role model. He teaches everyone in the College of Business how an educated, committed professional should conduct himself. He is most deserving of the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence to an Academic Non-Regular.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Beth Mohrman".

Mary Beth Mohrman
Associate Professor of Accounting
Area Coordinator for Accounting

WAYNE W. WINTER

List of Courses Taught

The Legal Environment of Business
Law, Ethics and Business (MBA)
Business Law
Income Taxes
Business Ethics (MBA)
Tax Research
Seminar in State and Local Tax
Topics in Accounting and the Law

WAYNE WINTER
STATEMENT OF TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

What is a teacher? And, what does it mean to teach? Those are wonderful questions which every teacher must, at some time, address. In my case, however, I was told on Monday that I could teach a class (for my first time) if I could start the next day, so I didn't have a lot of time to philosophize about my situation. However, after twenty nine years of teaching, I have had the opportunity to give a lot of thought about those issues in teaching that are important to me.

The teacher is the person, hopefully, who knows more about the subject matter of his course than anyone else in the room. And it is the teacher's job to share his knowledge of the subject matter with his students. Personally, I have always found the subject matter of courses I've taught exciting and interesting, and it is my job to share that excitement with my students. I always tell my students that the content of my course is the most important in the entire College of Business curriculum, and I believe that to be true. (I would even make that statement before my colleagues in a faculty meeting.) If the teacher is bored with his subject matter, you can bet his presentation will be equally boring, and nothing good will happen. Good teachers are not boring teachers. Good teachers create an excitement in their classroom where both students and teacher are interested in the subject matter. I've had very few students fall asleep in my class.

The teacher sets the standards of performance for the class. I have always maintained high standards for my students. They are informed at the first class meeting of my expectations. Unfortunately, in American education today, students too often have experienced teachers with low expectations. That's fatal. A teacher will only get from his students what the teacher demands. Demand much, and you'll get much; demand little, and you'll get little. Students must be challenged, and it is my job, as the teacher, to do just that. It's a formidable job, and not all students will succeed. And not all will be happy. There will be students who fail, and they will receive a failing grade. Teaching is not a popularity contest! I've advised many younger faculty members that, if they want to be popular with their students, they probably will not be effective teachers.

As a teacher I must be available and approachable for my students. They must know that I care about them and that I'm willing to share my time, my knowledge and my self with them. I have spent countless hours with students listening to their academic and non-academic problems. Many of my former students return just to talk. These are, for the most part, some of the best hours of my life as a teacher. I am amazed at the number of teachers who find students to be an inconvenience! They sit behind their closed office doors, sending the message "Don't bother me!" to their students.

I try to learn each student's first name every semester. When I call a student by name, the student immediately realizes I am interested in the student. This is quite a chore, and I admit I try to learn only first names. Do I succeed? Usually, but not always. This semester I have one hundred and fifty two undergraduate students and thirty nine graduate students. At this point in the semester, I probably know only about seventy five percent of their first names. By semester's end, I'll know about ninety five percent by their first name. And, yes, sometimes I will say "Hi, John" to a man in the quadrangle, and he'll say "My name is Joe." I can live with being wrong.

As the teacher, I set the example for my students. When I enter the classroom, I must be prepared if I want them to be prepared. Students quickly learn what is expected of them in the classroom, and most rise to the occasion. If I want my students to be punctual, I must be punctual. If I want them to use only good grammar, I must use only good grammar. If class

meets for seventy five minutes, that's how long we usually meet. Students learn that I think every minute of class is important; that sends them an important message. On rare occasions we might end a few minutes early, but that's the exception and not the rule. Unless I'm deathly ill, I go to class. Being there and being well prepared is important to me. I cannot demand more of my students than I demand of myself.

I have told my students, and I firmly believe it to be true: Teaching in a university is the best job in the world! I cannot think of anything I would have enjoyed doing more for the last twenty-nine years than teaching in a university.

Wayne W. Winter