

**ASSOCIATION OF ATLANTIC UNIVERSITIES
AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING
2000
INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD**

ZOE HAYES

Zoe Hayes' influence on the teaching climate at St. Francis Xavier University stems from her own instructional approach, one that has inspired many of her colleagues. By managing to combine her own teaching with a natural curiosity and keen interest in the nature of her craft and its possibilities, she thinks constantly about her teaching and engages in discussions with other faculty members on teaching related topics.

Zoe Hayes' contributions to the advancement of teaching and learning at St. F. X. began a decade ago, soon after she arrived on campus as a "mature" member of faculty, at a time when the university was considering establishing its first Faculty Development Committee. A founding member of the Committee, she was a highly active participant and played a leading role in defining the Committee's goals, procedures and activities. She also chaired the Committee for five years, during which time she was instrumental in leading a range of initiatives and activities, including the highly successful Orientation for New Faculty. Her colleagues attest to the fact that there has hardly been an initiative related to the promotion of teaching and learning at St. F. X. in which Zoe Hayes has not played a prominent -- and usually leading -- role.

A recipient of the University's Outstanding Teaching Award in 1997-98, Zoe Hayes has a passion for teaching, and approaches her students and her classes with obvious enthusiasm and pleasure. According to her colleagues, she considers "working with young people to be the highest calling that she can imagine." "Her commitment to teaching is infectious." "The teaching climate at the University is different for her having been among us for the past decade." "We always wanted great teaching. Zoe has truly made a difference by helping to make it happen." "Zoe's name has become virtually synonymous with teaching innovation."

Zoe Hayes' influence on teaching extends beyond her campus. A member of the AAU Coordinating Committee on Faculty Development for many years, she was a regular participant in conferences on teaching and learning and organized the highly successful second annual Atlantic Universities' Teaching Showcase. She is a great source of encouragement and support to others who become involved in instructional development activities, both at her own university and beyond.

Through example as an effective mentor and guide for her students, Zoe Hayes has come to play the same role for her colleagues and has been a vocal advocate for creating an environment that nurtures faculty to become great teachers. Her public activities are impressive, but it is through the energy and passion that she has shown as teacher of her own students that she has had the greatest impact on instructional development at St. F. X. She is a most deserving recipient of the 2000 Association of Atlantic Universities Instructional Leadership Award.