



The 2017 President's Award for Excellence in Teaching – Karen Wilson

Karen Wilson is an Instructor in the English and Communication department who teaches courses such as Survey of Human Communication, Basic Principles of Speech, and Family Communication where she combines excellent lecturing with activities that allow students to have practical examples for the theories covered in the lecture.

Karen's student evaluations tend to illustrate an appreciation for the ability to ease public speaking anxieties and praise not only her kindness, humor, and sincerity, but also her professionalism, fairness, and helpfulness. Karen strives to offer all students individual guidance and fosters a path for excellence. Her course materials clearly articulate the parameters by which her courses will be conducted.

Karen has worked to modify the permanent curriculum of the Communication program by using her expertise in documentary filmmaking to develop the proposal for Studies in Documentary Film. She guided this proposal through the various stages of approvals necessary and has since taught a fully enrolled course twice since its addition in Spring 2016. This course not only expands the offerings of the English and Communication Department's curriculum as a whole, but also supports the growing Film Studies minor.

Karen has served as a faculty sponsor and/or academic advisor for a sizable number of student internships, as well as numerous independent study courses.

In recognition of her outstanding teaching and dedication to her students, SUNY Potsdam presents Karen Wilson the 2017 President's Award for Excellence in Teaching.