



Citation for Professor Brian Farrell

Outstanding Educator Award

Professor Brian Farrell teaches History with a conviction that students should emerge from his class transformed. Reading critically, thinking analytically, arguing independently and always being ready to do the “necessary hard work” are skills he inculcates in all his students.

His passion for teaching is most evident when he brings students into the field. History is brought from the past to the present. Think, feel, experience. Up mountains, down valleys and often to cemeteries, battlefields and jungles, he is the consummate field-educator who believes in stretching learners intellectually, mentally and even physically. To date, he has conducted 13 overseas field modules to nine different locations across six countries.

Believing that there is no better way to learn than to be actively and critically engaged, Brian’s students have come face to face with the *Bidayu Dayak* people of Borneo, interviewed army and air-force personnel, and spoken to policy makers in defence and military in countries as diverse as Australia, Vietnam, Korea and the Philippines.

Brian is an inspiration not only to students, but to colleagues around him. He makes it a point to bring young faculty along on field trips, hoping to inspire them to undertake

field teaching themselves. He has also engaged museum docents, tour guides as well as secondary school and junior college students.

Bringing history alive, firing the imagination, and instilling a curiosity about people, places and processes – these are the indelible qualities for which we recognise Brian as this year's Outstanding Educator. My heartiest congratulations to Professor Brian Farrell.