The Saint Anselm College Chapter of the AAUP

Presents

The Distinguished Faculty Award

to

Elizabeth Ossoff, Ph.D.

Founded in 1915, the American Association of University Professors has worked to cultivate a commitment to scholarly excellence, professional values, and the common good. Only once a year, the Saint Anselm College Chapter of the AAUP presents the Distinguish Faculty Award at graduation to recognize excellence in teaching and scholarship, outstanding academic citizenship, and compassionate action for the human family.

This year’s award recipient arrived at the college in 1990 and has ever since thrown her energy into scholarship, teaching, and community life. Her career can be tracked by rivers with her life being lived near the Hudson, the Kennebec, and the Mystic rivers, and today the Merrimack here in Manchester. She earned a liberal arts degree, at Colby College, then headed to Tufts University for her graduate degrees, and finally arrived at Saint Anselm College thereafter.

Upon ascending the Hilltop, she began developing and teaching courses in social psychology, political psychology, gender, and media related issues. Once they overcome their initial fear of her, students find a master teacher and compassionate mentor. Indeed, they find her both challenging and engaging.

Her research into the psychology of politics, media, and gender is marked by scientific precision, insight, and collaboration. In addition to the title professor, she had been the Research Coordinator for the Jeanne D. Smith Center for the Study of American Democracy and Citizenship at Saint Anselm’s New Hampshire Institute of Politics. Among her many publications and conference presentations, she recently collaborated with Professor Elizabeth Rickenbach on an article entitled “Age and Gender Intersectionality in the 2016 Presidential Election.”

Indeed, collaboration has been what has made her an exceptional citizen at Saint Anselm College. Noticeably talented, our recipient quickly found herself in leadership positions at the college. Not only has she been department chair, but also has served on committees critical to the success of the college, such as the Accreditation Committee, the New Curriculum Committee, and the Presidential Search Committee. Her colleagues note that her leadership is facilitated by humor, navigated by clarity, and marked by care. Additionally, she worked tirelessly to develop the National Education of Women Leadership New England every June for ten years. It’s no wonder that she was a featured guest on the radio program, “Movers & Shakers,” to speak on her passionate commitment to positive change.

Not all business, our recipient is a sports enthusiast. She is extremely proud of her two sons, Ben and Will, and spent many years following their athletic careers. Today, she remains the faculty adviser to our men’s rugby team. When she has free time, she likes nothing better than to head to the shores of Maine with her husband, Dan, listen to the waves, and settle into a good book. It’s my great pleasure to present the 2020 AAUP Distinguished Faculty Award to Professor of Psychology, Elizabeth Ossoff.