

**ASSOCIATION OF ATLANTIC UNIVERSITIES
AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING
1991
DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD**

ALEX FANCY

Alex Fancy has a sustained record of distinction in teaching. One of his colleagues describes the "enthusiasm and elegant competence which have made him a role model for his colleagues." Professor Fancy is well known for his innovative use of drama in the learning process and has encouraged many students to pursue the learning of French through dramatic explorations, including the presentation of plays he himself has written.

Students have had the opportunity to develop their enthusiasm about language and to enhance their skills of expression in Alex Fancy's classes. Typical comments address the quality of the learning experience, his devotion, enthusiasm and positive attitude, the challenges he places before students, and his superb communication skills. One of his students commented "he fulfilled my wildest expectations...his love of the language is very evident in his teaching. Merci pour une merveilleuse année!" Other students praise his approachability, his eagerness to pass on and encourage learning and his ability to excite students about language.

Students, who might otherwise not have considered participating in drama have performed with the Tintamarre Troupe in Mount Allison's Windsor Theatre, a Troupe established and directed by Alex Fancy. These students have learned self-confidence while enhancing their language skills. Moreover, the learning process has not been limited to the actors, for indeed audiences learn a great deal, particularly through those pieces which highlight issues of language learning in Canada's bilingual and multicultural society. Alex Fancy has shared these experiences with many individuals and groups outside Mount Allison by taking Tintamarre to perform in schools and for community groups in Atlantic and central Canada as well as at professional gatherings like the AUCC and the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education.

Alex Fancy has also played a leading role in emphasizing teaching, learning and curriculum assessment throughout and beyond Mount Allison University by means of his service on many committees and his participation in learned societies.

His sustained commitment to teaching, his ability to challenge and achieve an enthusiastic response from his students, whether it be a student doing an elective in French or a specialized Honours student, and his innovations in language learning well befit Alex Fancy for the honour of being selected to receive the Distinguished Teacher Award.