

**ASSOCIATION OF ATLANTIC UNIVERSITIES
AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING
2002
DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD**

KATHERINE A. FREGO

Kate Frego has earned a reputation as one of the University of New Brunswick's most highly respected, gifted and innovative professors, who contributes to teaching through superior classroom instruction, mentoring of graduate students, and university-wide contributions to the promotion of teaching excellence. She was previously recognized at UNB when she was awarded the 1997 Dr. Allan P. Stuart Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Kate Frego's teaching is distinguished by the efforts she makes to encourage students to "take ownership" of their learning process. Sensitive to the diversity that exists among learners and the need to be responsive to students' different learning styles, she is also a role model in the field of science where women have traditionally been under-represented. By encouraging her students to reach high academic standards by thinking critically, and also to enjoy learning, Kate Frego inspires them to take every opportunity to learn and to push themselves beyond the norm. Kate's excellence as a researcher-mentor has inspired students to challenge themselves and to enjoy learning botany, and to continue on with their studies. She is a dynamic and enthusiastic teacher, one who continually works to improve the content and delivery of her courses. Her students comment on their deep appreciation for the professionalism, fairness, and good humour which characterize her interactions with them.

Through her work with colleagues to strengthen the teaching and learning culture on both UNB campuses, Kate Frego has also emerged as a leading light in the pursuit of teaching excellence. An instructional leader who leads by example, Kate Frego's contributions to the campus have been outstanding. The enthusiasm she brings to teaching is contagious. She has assisted faculty members with their efforts to strengthen their teaching and has established mechanisms to formally recognize their teaching accomplishments. By regularly taking part in new faculty orientations and student commencement ceremonies, she conveys to both groups the responsibilities and exciting possibilities that their collaboration brings.

With the thought, effort and care that she devotes to her teaching and the positive learning environment that she creates, Kate Frego has earned the respect and admiration of her students and colleagues alike. They recognize in her a highly committed educator, one who exemplifies in her teaching an inspiring combination of intellectual enthusiasm, integrity, fairness and strong scholarship. Kate Frego's commitment to teaching excellence and her considerable contributions to the development of a strong teaching and learning community at UNB make her a most worthy recipient of the 2002 Association of Atlantic Universities Distinguished Teacher Award.