



ASSOCIATION OF ATLANTIC UNIVERSITIES
ASSOCIATION DES UNIVERSITÉS DE L'ATLANTIQUE

Award for Excellence in Teaching
2015

Anne Marie Mackinnon
Educational Leadership Award

Dr. Dale Roach

Dr. Dale Roach began teaching in the Department of Engineering at the University of New Brunswick–Saint John in 2000 and since that time has been enthusiastically committed to fostering a culture of good teaching. His colleagues describe Dale's leadership style as collegial, open, and inclusive. He espouses what Robert Greenleaf calls the "Servant Leadership" model, focusing primarily on the wellbeing and growth of people and the communities to which they belong. In Dale's case, these communities include not only his department and faculty, but also the whole Saint John campus and beyond. He leads by example and, when appropriate, takes the reins of a project and uses the skills he developed as an engineer to lead projects to fruition.

Dale demonstrates educational leadership by contributing to all activities and initiatives that support good teaching. He continuously seeks to incorporate new educational ideas into his own courses and he shares his teaching techniques through informal conversations and mentoring, and by facilitating teaching and learning sessions for colleagues. His multifaceted approach to educational leadership also involves welcoming new members to the teaching community, participating in educational technology pilot projects, serving on committees related to teaching and learning, contributing to course development and curriculum initiatives, and helping to organize teaching-related workshops and conferences.

Arguably, the most impactful of the projects that Dale has shepherded was the development of "University 1003: Everything You Need to Know in First Year", a for-credit first-year experience course, which required the involvement and cooperation of variety of people from across the campus. Committee members praised his leadership style that allowed every voice to be heard. One member commented: "his willingness to always include and assist others was evident in every stage of the development of this course, and we would not have this key initiative in place without his determined leadership."

Not to be confined to the walls of the Saint John campus, Dale is also active in outreach. The Dean of the Faculty of Science, Applied Science and Engineering wrote: "he takes great pride in sharing his passion for engineering and UNB with our community. He inspires others to participate in promoting our campus and university and he is on the top of our call list when we are looking for a representative to speak at events and local schools."

All who have had the pleasure of working with him on teaching and learning projects and the many more who have benefitted from his diverse educational leadership endeavours join the Association of Atlantic Universities in thanking Dr. Dale Roach for his contributions which have earned him the 2015 Anne Marie Mackinnon Educational Leadership Award.