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Students Elect Professor, Staffer, Advisor of the Year

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Students Elect Professor, Staffer, Advisor of the Year

March 29, 2016

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— The Illinois Wesleyan student body has elected Associate Professor of French and Italian Scott Sheridan as the 2016 Professor of the Year.

The Student Senate conducts the annual election as a way for students to show appreciation to faculty members. This year 58 faculty members were nominated for the award.

Sheridan will address the Class of 2016 during Commencement on Sunday, May 1. He also serves as the current director for International Studies and chaired the former Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures

department. In his 18 years at Illinois Wesleyan, Sheridan has taught over 30 different classes at every level of the curriculum, including courses in seven different departments or programs including French, Italian, Humanities and International Studies, and 10 different general education categories or flags. He has led travel courses during May Term and directed the IWU London Program in fall 2008.

"I was overjoyed to receive such an incredible honor," Sheridan said upon learning he had been elected Professor of the Year. "I love that spark that our students have, and seeing students get as excited as I am about coming to class is very rewarding. IWU students always amaze me in their intellectual curiosity, and many days I leave the classroom thinking, 'wow, that was like magic!'"

Sheridan holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, and a Ph.D. in French literature from the University of Iowa. While at the University of Iowa, he worked as a research assistant in the Translation Laboratory. In addition to being a scholar of 19th- and 20th-century literature, he is a translator of literary works and scholarly articles from French and Italian into English. Recently he translated two novels into English for AmazonCrossing, the largest publisher of its kind for translated works.



Watch highlights of Sheridan's May Term Travel Course, "Renaissance Italy."



Professor of the Year Scott Sheridan has taught courses in French, Italian, Humanities and International Studies.



Robyn Walter

In the same election, Robyn Walter, was elected as 2016 Staff Member of the Year. Walter is international student and scholar advisor, a position she took last year after 12 years as a career consultant with the Hart Career Center. Walter joined IWU in 2000 as a staff counselor. Walter holds a master's degree in clinical psychology from Illinois State University and is a graduate of Miami University of Ohio. She is a licensed clinical professional counselor.

A new category in this year's election was Academic Advisor of the Year. Will Teichman '19, Student Senate chief of staff, said the category was added to show appreciation for the work advisors do for students. "They devote time out of the day to help us figure out what we are doing and to help us not only pursue but achieve our dreams," said Teichman.

Students elected Provost and Dean of the Faculty Jonathan Green as Advisor of the Year. Green joined IWU in 2011. In addition to his administrative appointment as provost, Green is professor of music. He earned his doctorate in musical arts from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, his master's degree from the University of Massachusetts – Amherst, and his bachelor's degree from the State University of New York at Fredonia.



Jonathan Green

