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In the Marianist Spirit

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02.08.2013 | Campus and Community, Catholic

The University of Dayton has recognized two lay employees with one of its highest honors for contributing to the Catholic, Marianist identity of the University.

Amy Anderson and Thomas Columbus are the 2013 recipients of the Lackner Awards, named in honor of Brother Elmer Lackner, S.M., whose influence throughout 45 years of service permeated nearly all areas of University life. Each year, the office for mission and rector presents the award to two faculty or staff who are not vowed Marianists and who have made a noteworthy contribution to the unique Catholic and Marianist character of the University.

In Anderson's 15 years at the University, she has served as coordinator of international admission and held interim appointments as international student and scholar services coordinator, and as assistant dean of the graduate school. Since becoming director of the Center for International Programs seven years ago, she has worked to advance the University's international and intercultural mission, engaging in partnerships across campus and beyond, including with many international Marianist communities. She resides in Dayton.

Columbus, a Kettering resident, took a job teaching English at the University in 1967, but soon found a permanent home in the University's communications office, editing *Campus Report* and the alumni publication now known as the *University of Dayton Magazine*. His editor's columns in the alumni magazine became must-reads for generations of graduates, and although he retired from full-time work in 2010, Columbus' voice remains a consistent presence throughout the University's publications.

For more information, contact the Office of the Rector at 937-229-2899.