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University Award in Teaching: Stephen Wilhoit

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Stephen Wilhoit has been an outstanding and highly productive faculty member in the department of English since joining the University of Dayton in 1988.

Wilhoit has demonstrated a sustained high quality of classroom teaching, innovative teaching techniques and extensive work in helping other faculty improve their abilities through faculty professional development.

As a classroom instructor, he has maintained an excellent record of teaching in a wide variety of graduate and undergraduate English courses. He modeled and propagated the use of innovative teaching and assessment techniques throughout the department and the University. In the English department, he brought innovations to graduate teaching assistant education and led efforts to improve how introductory composition courses were structured and taught.

His excellence in teaching and pedagogy carries through in his work at the Learning Teaching Center, where he has also been a leader in faculty development programming at UD, influencing how students are taught across the disciplines. In addition to offering numerous faculty development events and workshops every year, he also led efforts to establish several innovative programs and projects, including the LTC Working Papers on Scholarship of Teaching, the Writing Across the Curriculum faculty seminar, the seminar on New Media and the Scholarship of Teaching, and the Research Fellows program.

Wilhoit has written three highly regarded and adopted textbooks, two focusing on writing and one on the training of teaching assistants. He has numerous publications and conference presentations on teacher training, composition and pedagogy. In 1997, he received the College of Arts and Sciences' teaching award.

In short, his entire career at the University of Dayton has centered on efforts to improve teaching and to enhance student learning not only in the classes he teaches, but also in other instructors' classes across the University.

For these and for many other outstanding accomplishments, Stephen Wilhoit is the 2009 recipient of the Alumni Award in Teaching.