



Dear campus community,

The Harry E. Brakebill Award annually acknowledges a professor who demonstrates excellence in teaching, research, creative scholarship and service to the campus and the broader community. Upon the recommendation of the Faculty Award Selection Committee, I am pleased to announce that the recipient of the 2021-22 Harry E. Brakebill Distinguished Professor Award is Dr. Veronica Anover, professor of French and Spanish for the Department of Modern Language Studies in the College of Humanities, Arts, Behavioral and Social Sciences (CHABSS).

Dr. Anover embodies the principles of the Brakebill Award through her excellence in teaching, service and scholarly activities. As a passionate educator, Dr. Anover has taught across all levels of the curriculum in both French and Spanish. An innovator of high-impact pedagogy, she explores new and creative methods to guide students and instill in them a love for learning new languages and understanding different cultures. Students have shared that walking into Dr. Anover's classroom is often the best part of their day.

Dr. Anover is laser focused on student success and is sensitive to the needs of students, recognizing how their overall well-being supports their ability to learn, build confidence, and develop positive relationships. She not only serves as a faculty adviser for many student organizations on campus, including the French Club, but she also endowed a scholarship fund for students who wish to study abroad in France, an effort she launched in the memory of a former student. In the words of a colleague, "(Dr. Anover) encourages (students) to stretch themselves, reach for high standards and ... believe in themselves; she inspires them and connects them with resources and opportunities offered at CSUSM, so their college experience is rich and well-supported when challenges occur or when opportunities are available."

Dr. Anover has authored three major textbooks and published ancillary materials including instructor's annotated guides, student workbooks and testing manuals. Her creativity, deep understanding of pedagogy and commitment to student needs are reflected in these endeavors along with her numerous reviews of French and Spanish textbooks for McGraw Hill and Cengage. In addition to her published manuscripts that focus on online learning and the socioeconomic status of students, written for academic audiences, Dr. Anover also writes quarterly book reviews for the French Review, the official journal of the American Association of Teachers of French.

Regarding service and contributions to our university, Dr. Anover's contributions have been significant. At the college level, she served as associate dean of curriculum, academic programs and student success (2019-2021); department chair of women's, gender and sexuality studies (2017-2018); and served on many other task forces and committees. At the university level, she served on Academic Senate (2017-2019), chaired the Promotion and Tenure Committee (2014-2015) and the Student Affairs Committee (2009-2010), and served as interim co-director of the Faculty Center (2015) and interim faculty director of Service Learning (2017-2019). Finally, she was a faculty fellow for online teaching and learning (2014-2015) and chair of the Quality of Online Teaching team (2014) in addition to many other leadership roles.

Dr. Anover's many accomplishments since joining our campus in 1999 speak to her sustained teaching excellence, research and service at CSUSM. But perhaps even more significant is the passion, vision, hard work and positive spirit she brings to all that she does. Please join me in congratulating her on this well-deserved honor.

Sincerely,

Ellen Neufeldt
President

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