Our undergraduate years are shaped by the many people with whom we interact. Who those people are, and the impact they have, depends on our own personal experiences. Without a doubt, instructors can have a profound effect on both our education and our lives during our time at McMaster.

As we progress through our undergraduate careers, we have all encountered instructors who are simultaneously engaging and personable, and also incredible lecturers, passionate researchers, and dedicated teachers. As McMaster students, we are fortunate to attend an institution that prides itself in both teaching and learning excellence. This is highlighted in the newly founded McMaster Institute for Innovation and Excellence in Teaching and Learning (MIIETL). MIIETL actively supports instructors in pedagogical instruction and conducts research into more effective and novel forms of teaching and best practices. This office is a testament to McMaster’s efforts to provide the highest calibre of instruction and learning possible.

The McMaster Students Union (MSU) is proud to recognize and promote continuous high-quality teaching. For decades, the MSU has acknowledged those instructors who exemplify these qualities through the MSU Teaching Awards. The MSU’s Teaching Awards Committee (TAC) coordinates these student-nominated awards, which consist of distinctions in: Faculty, Merit, Lifetime Achievement, Teaching Assistant, and Pedagogical Innovation.

TAC strives to recognize excellence within every faculty, as well as innovation in the classroom. New this year, the committee is excited to recognize instructors who place an emphasis on community engagement. The MSU is pleased to be a leader in acknowledging excellence and dedication in this field with the newfound Community Engagement Award.

The fall nomination period runs from November 3 – 14. Second semester award nominations will begin in the spring, with all recipients being acknowledged at the annual Teaching Awards ceremony in March. Nominations can be submitted online. For more information about the awards, nomination process, and more, head to www.msumcmaster.ca/tac. I ask that each and every one of you consider nominating the outstanding instructors, professors, and teaching assistants who have made a difference in your undergraduate career.

As McMaster students, we are fortunate to attend an institution that prides itself in both teaching and learning excellence.

The President’s Page is a space sponsored and used by the McMaster Students Union (MSU) Board of Directors (BoD) to communicate with the student body. It functions to highlight the Board’s projects, goals, and agenda for the year, as well as the general happenings of the MSU.