



2018 Recipient of the William V. Moore Distinguished Teacher-Scholar Award

Dr. Beth L. Sundstrom

The William V. Moore Distinguished Teacher-Scholar Award honors faculty members who have been selected by their peers as exemplifying the teacher-scholar model. The recipients' exemplary scholarship and exemplary teaching have enriched the intellectual lives of our students throughout their careers. We are pleased to recognize Dr. Beth Sundstrom from the Department of Communication with the 2018 award.

Beth's work is in the area of Public Health with a focus on health communication and public relations. She has recently published a monograph on reproductive justice and has written or contributed to 26 refereed journal articles. She views her work through a reproductive justice lens and considers the social, cultural, political, and economic contexts that contribute to health inequities based on race/ethnicity, ability, class, and sexuality. Beth has recently received a Fulbright Award to study reproductive justice activism in Ireland. Her work has been well supported with collaborative grants and contracts from the Donnelly Foundation, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and the South Carolina Coalition for Healthy Families, among others.

In her teaching, Beth incorporates experiential learning, for example, by having students partner with non-profit clients to provide public relations expertise. She also co-founded and directs the College's Women's Health Research Team, an interdisciplinary team of faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students with the mission of investigating health issues specific to women and adolescent girls, promoting interdisciplinary research collaborations, and communicating research findings and health-related information to empower women in the community. Through her leadership in this initiative, Beth has helped mentor 50 students, who are provided with an immersive research experience with literature review, IRB approvals, data collection and analysis, communication of results and writing of manuscripts. Beth has also mentored 22 individual enrollment experiences for students and worked with eight summer students with SURF funding. She has secured funding to support graduate students in these efforts and several students have published with her. In addition, Beth serves on numerous boards related to health advocacy and her work has been featured in mainstream media outlets, such as SCETV, Huffington Post, and Science for the People.

Beth personifies the teacher-scholar model. We are humbled and inspired by her example. It is an honor to name Dr. Beth Sundstrom as the 2018 William V. Moore Distinguished Teacher-Scholar.

