

BOWDOIN COLLEGE
2020 Alumni Award for Faculty and Staff
EILEEN SYLVAN JOHNSON

Eileen Sylvan Johnson, lecturer and program manager in environmental studies, a colleague noted that your “title does not adequately capture [your] impact, contributions, and commitments to the students, the College, the Brunswick community, and beyond.” You are the heart and soul of Bowdoin’s environmental studies program, and for the generations of students who have benefitted from your knowledge, guidance, and personal attention, you are a central figure in their academic and professional development.

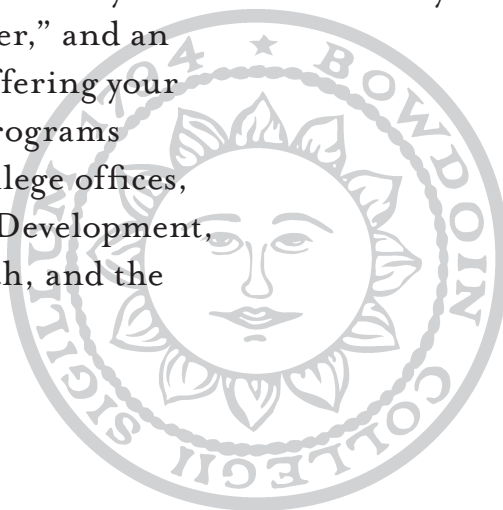
Since your arrival at Bowdoin in 2001, you have enriched the environmental studies curriculum with your expertise in GIS mapping and its practical applications in environmental conservation, prompting countless students, alumni, and colleagues to underscore your impact on their work. One former student described you as a “humble, dedicated, and tireless worker who pours her energy into guiding and empowering students. She is committed to education that is truly rooted in place and process, and this commitment has led to numerous student service-learning projects that actually leave a positive and lasting impact on the Brunswick community and wider watershed.”

Across campus, you are known to faculty and staff as a “leader,” a “great partner,” and an “eager collaborator,” willingly offering your time and energy to events and programs conducted jointly with other College offices, such as Career Exploration and Development, Student Fellowships and Research, and the

McKeen Center for the Common Good. And, according to a faculty member from another department, you “do all of this with dedication and a friendly spirit. The College is a better place to work because she is here.”

Another faculty member noted that your contributions extend beyond the Bowdoin campus. “Eileen is not only dedicated to her students in creative and inspiring ways,” they explained, “she also is impressive in her efforts to bring together the needs of the community with the best interests of her students.” These efforts have included helping to place dozens of students in fellowships with local and national environmental organizations—placements that benefit the students, the organizations, and the surrounding community. A representative of The Nature Conservancy praised the valuable contributions that you and Bowdoin fellowship students made to several community-based water resource projects. One student who received such a fellowship called your role “transformational.” Another simply stated, “Dr. Eileen Johnson made me employable.”

For your selfless and profoundly impactful work in environmental studies with students, faculty, staff, and the larger community, we are proud to present you with the Alumni Award for Faculty and Staff for 2020.



CLAYTON S. ROSE
President of the College

MAY 30, 2020

MICHAEL T. MOYNIHAN '89
President of the Alumni Council