

The facts of Mary Kinnane's professional life demonstrate the Jesuit ideal of education in service to others. Professor Mary T. Kinnane was born in Dublin and educated in Ireland, England, and the United States. She received her B.A. degree from Liverpool University and won a teaching fellowship at the University of Kansas where she earned an M.A. in Speech and Theater. In 1954 she joined the then two-year old School of Education at Boston College as a teacher of speech and the following year assumed, in addition, the role of Dean of Women. Professor Kinnane was instrumental in winning membership for Boston College in the American Association of University Women in 1963. It was also due to her initiatives that women were admitted to the previously all-male University Chorale, were accepted into the Junior Year Abroad program, and were made eligible to apply for Woodrow Wilson Fellowships.

Supported by a Carnegie Foundation Fellowship for her dissertation research on the attitudes of college students towards college teaching as a career, Professor Kinnane received her Ph.D. from Boston College in the field of Counseling Psychology in 1963. In 1972 when Higher Education became a graduate division in Boston College's School of Education, Dr. Kinnane established the program in Student Personnel/Student Development leading to the doctoral degree. Later she added a similar program leading to the Master's degree, and she chaired the division of Higher Education. Dr. Kinnane also served as Dean of the Summer School at Boston College.

was published in such professional journals as

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The Mary T. Kinnane Award for Excellence in Higher Education was instituted in 1990 upon the retirement of Dr. Kinnane from the Higher Education Program at Boston College by graduate students who had studied under her. Students appreciated her support, encouragement, enthusiasm and, as needed, the push she gave them. Financial support for this award is a result of the gratitude and respect that graduate students, alumni, faculty, and friends have for Mary T. Kinnane.

This award is given annually to a graduating student in the Higher Education Program. The criteria include academic excellence and the quality of the nominee's service which reflects Mary T. Kinnane's embodiment of the Jesuit ideal of education in the service of others. Higher Education Master's and doctoral graduates from the current academic year (September, December, and May) are eligible.

Graduating students in Higher Education can nominate themselves or be nominated by students, faculty, alumni, or other members of the Boston College community.

Recipients of the Mary T. Kinnane Award for Excellence in Higher Education

1991	Brenda Ricard, M.A.
1992	Barry Corey, Ph.D.
1993	Claudia Morner, Ph.D.
1994	Richard Salmie, Ph.D. and Nancy Surma, Ph.D.
1995	Kelli J. Armstrong, Ph.D.
1996	Susan Cass, M. A.
1997	Heather Kelley, M. A.
1998	Kristen Renn, Ph.D. and James JF Forest, Ph.D.
1999	Margaret Curran, M. A.
2000	Diane Dittmar, Ph.D.
2001	Lisa Millora, M. A.

2002 Mary Lou Jackson, Ph.D.

2003 Katya Salkever, Ph.D.

2004 Mandy Savigneu, Ph.D.

2015

Jessica Pesce, Ph.D. and Chelsea Kott, M.A.

2016

Brooke Goodman, M.A.

2017

Kevin Gin, Ph.D. and Cherry Lim, M.A.

2018