

Adam Sitze  
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Great intellects—from as far as ancient Athens and as near as the front row of your classroom in the Octagon—are on full display when you teach. As you bring to life the ideas of humanity’s deepest thinkers—from Shakespeare, to Sophocles, to Freud, to Heidegger—you challenge and inspire students to use the power of their own minds in imaginative, bold, and independent ways. One of your students has aptly called you “a consummate friend to thought” and a “devoted learner.” And you help those whom you teach achieve these distinctions as well. Together, you and your students probe literary, legal, and philosophic texts that span cultures and centuries. And for the range of young people who come to Amherst, new realms of knowledge open up, intellectual curiosity is piqued, and worldviews are transformed. The consummate humanist, you make close critical reading, clear and eloquent writing, and reasoned questioning and argument the cornerstones of your pedagogy, exemplifying the liberal arts tradition at its finest.

In recognition of the intellectual rigor, dedication to inquiry and discovery, contagious enthusiasm, and deep care that you bring to your teaching, and the enduring impact that you have on your students, Amherst College is honored to award you the 2019 Jeffrey B. Ferguson Memorial Teaching Prize.

Biddy Martin  
President  
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