

2021 Phyllis A. Roth Faculty Distinguished Service Award Recipient

Grace Burton

Associate Professor of Spanish
Department of World Languages and Literatures

The Faculty Development Committee is delighted to announce Grace Burton as this year's recipient of the Phyllis A. Roth Faculty Distinguished Service Award. Grace's record of service to her department of World Languages and Literatures, to the college, and to the larger community is outstanding, and difficult to summarize in a singular citation.

Over a 34-year career, Grace has consistently answered "Yes" when asked if willing to serve. Within her department, she has served as Coordinator for the Spanish Language Section, a large division within World Languages and Literatures. Grace's service has also included membership on the departmental Curriculum Committee and on numerous search committees.

Outside her department, Grace has answered the bell seemingly at every level and throughout the college. She served as Dean of Studies (now Associate Dean of the Faculty for Student Academic Affairs) where she was often the public face of the college to countless students and parents. Grace has chaired the Committee on Appointments, Promotion and Tenure, the Tenure Review Board, the Institutional Planning Committee (now IPPC), as well as the Committee on Academic Freedom and Rights-- this last one for four years! Those of you who have served on and chaired these committees know the dedication of time and energy that they demand.

Grace also stepped outside her department to serve as Chair of the Theater Department for two years. This position was perfect for someone like Grace, who has a deep understanding of the inner workings of the college and the ability to work across disciplines to offer leadership and guidance. Many of you who are familiar with Grace, and have worked with her in her many roles on campus, know that she contributes sharp intellect, compassion, and a healthy sense of humor to her work. She does so with a serious commitment to Skidmore, its faculty members and its students. On behalf of the FDC and the entire Skidmore community, thank you for your service Grace, and congratulations on this well-earned honor!