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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mount Mary College Announces Recipients of Teaching Excellence Award

MILWAUKEE (November 1, 2012) – Mount Mary College announced its 2012 "Excellence in Teaching" award recipients. Jennifer Hockenbery, Ph.D, professor of Philosophy, received the full-time teaching award, and Helga Kisler, instructor in Theology, received the part-time award. To earn the award, faculty must demonstrate innovative teaching techniques, current knowledge of developments, trends and research in her academic field, as well as dedication, enthusiasm and support of students' personal, moral and intellectual growth.

Hockenbery began teaching Philosophy at Mount Mary College in 1998 and received tenure in 2004. She received her B. A. Philosophy and Classics from Bowdoin College, and her M.A. and Ph.D. in Philosophy from Boston University. She is a frequent author and presenter on ancient and medieval philosophy and religious topics including their relevance for today's world. Nominating students identified her as a teacher who "is very gifted at capturing an audience."

Kisler began teaching at Mount Mary College in 2004. She graduated cum laude from Mount Mary' Honors Program with a B.A. and triple major in theology, English, and art therapy. She received her M.A. in Theology from Marquette University and is currently a Ph.D. candidate there. Nominating students called Kisler "someone who goes out of her way to encourage her students to expand their knowledge and understanding."

According to Dr. Eileen Schwalbach, President of Mount Mary College, "the Excellence in Teaching awards recognize faculty members who consistently challenge themselves and their students. At a time when higher education is under intense scrutiny, we're delighted to recognize faculty who inform and inspire students to reach their full potential," Schwalbach said.

This year's award winners were selected by a committee comprised of faculty, students, the past year's award recipients and Mount Mary's associate dean for academic affairs.

PHOTOS ATTACHED

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Mount Mary College, founded in 1913 by the School Sisters of Notre Dame, was Wisconsin's first four-year, degree-granting Catholic college for women. Located on an 80-acre campus in Milwaukee, the College offers more than 30 undergraduate majors for women and eight graduate programs for women and men. Mount Mary also emphasizes study abroad, service learning, and social justice initiatives. Its more than 1600 students enjoy small class sizes (average 15) and over 90 percent of full-time students receive financial aid or scholarships. Through classroom instruction and community service, Mount Mary develops women to be leaders in their professions and their communities, serving as role models to inspire achievement in others. Visit Mount Mary at www.mtmary.edu.

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