Two graduates of Marquette University’s College of Education will be honored as outstanding educators. An awards tea sponsored by the Wisconsin Association of Teacher Education (WACTE) at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Madison will be held on March 13, 2016. Ms. Theresa Dobbs will be recognized for her excellence as an early career educator. Ms. Ruth Regent-Smith will be commended for her exceptional mentoring work with pre-service teachers.

Currently in her third year at Milwaukee School of Languages, Theresa Dobbs is a secondary math teacher and has started both the Middle School Math Club and a chapter of Mu Alpha Theta, a mathematics honor society for secondary students, which now has over 50 members. Dobbs is also the founder and current advisor of Mathletes, which has become one of the school’s most popular clubs. Mathletes provides students the opportunity to be challenged by problems that go beyond traditional curriculum while fostering creativity and problem-solving skills. The Mathletes participate in over 20 competitions each year and has quickly become one of the most active and successful clubs in Milwaukee.

Ruth Regent-Smith, a psychology and science teacher at Pius XI High School for the past 40 years, holds a M.Ed. from Marquette University. During her tenure, she has mentored student teachers and field students from area colleges and universities along with new teachers at Pius. Regarded as an exemplary instructional leader and educational model of best practices, one of Regent-Smith’s colleagues said “In my own early naïve teaching, I viewed myself as a teacher of history; Ruth made it clear to me that if a student does not know you care and respect who they are as a student, the history will not matter to them.” Regent-Smith has been honors by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association as Woman of the Year and the Herb Kohl Foundation with an Outstanding Teacher Award.

This is the third year that the Wisconsin Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (WACTE) has sponsored the Early Career and Pre-Service Educator Awards. Fifty teachers from across the state will be honored this year for their professional excellence. The Meemic Foundation is sponsoring the awards ceremony as well as the keynote speakers this year.
About Marquette University College of Education
The College of Education is one of 11 colleges at Marquette University, Wisconsin's largest independent educational institution which enjoys a national reputation for excellence. With a mission of teaching, research and service benefitting both education and mental health in the community, the College of Education carries a deep commitment to justice and a rigorous intellectual grounding.

About the Wisconsin Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
WACTE is a professional organization composed of the Wisconsin institutions that prepare individuals for teacher licensure. Our educator preparation programs offer diversity in size, focus, and delivery, but all are designed to prepare quality teachers for Wisconsin’s schools. WACTE is an affiliate of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE).

Contact: Calley Hostad, College of Education, Marquette University
PO Box 1881
Milwaukee, WI 53201
414-288-0659
cailin.hostad@marquette.edu