The 3M National Teaching Fellowship was born out of a partnership between the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education and 3M Canada in 1986 as a way to reward excellence in university teaching and leadership. “These are the teachers who open windows and change lives,” says Arshad Ahmad, a 3M fellow, the society’s president and McMaster’s new associate vice-president of teaching and learning. “Leaders doing work beyond their own institutions . . . champions we want to learn from.” The fellows become life members of the society, participate in its annual meeting and attend a teaching retreat in Banff, Alta., where they create new ways to foster academic excellence.

This year’s national teaching fellows are examples worth learning from.

**Tsuji’s educational leadership involves peer mentoring, workshops, conferences, video, TV, radio and publications. Cam, as he is known on campus, is described as “a one-in-a-million prof,” while a colleague says he is “the best teacher in our group.”**

**Eansor is lauded as an advocate for teaching and equitable access to education, but her biggest fans are her students, who say the approachable prof is the kind of academic who learns as much from her students as they learn from her.**

**The “reflective surgeon” reaches more than a million med students worldwide with his Surgery 101 podcasts, but its production never gets in the way of teaching students how to be surgeons, or helping to train more than 160 new surgeons how to teach.**

**This “guardian angel” and “mind-blowing professor” calls his students his “primary caregivers.” For this linguistics professor, teaching is less about the transmission of knowledge, and more about relationships, personality and emotional class dynamics.**

**Volk, a self-proclaimed “humanist and geek,” lives to teach. Her relationship with her students is unique and personal. Each gets at least an hour-long piano lesson a week. Her devoted students, one of whom called her a “saint,” say she changes lives.**

**This master teacher is known internationally for her work on the African diaspora, but she ignites intellectual curiosity with a narrative approach to teaching that includes performing and visual arts and the voices of witnesses and commentators.**

**An exceptional mentor who creates opportunities for experiential learning, Polegato’s business students help plan events for New Brunswick’s Culture Days, “a shining example of how the university and community can collaborate.”**

**This medieval history scholar gets out of her comfort zone and pushes students to do the same; teaching is an “intellectual aerobic activity.” She wants students “to be empowered by the realization that everything is open to interrogation.”**

**Maureen Volk  
School of Music, Memorial University**

**Carol B. Duncan  
Department of Religion and Culture, Wilfrid Laurier University**

**Rosemary Polegato  
Department of Commerce, Mount Allison University**

**Jacqueline Murray  
Department of History, University of Guelph**

**Patrick Maher  
Department of Community Studies, Cape Breton University**

**Philippe Caignon  
Département d’études françaises, Concordia University**

**Pippa Lock  
Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, McMaster University**

**JONATHAN WHITE  
Department of Surgery, University of Alberta**

**Donna Marie Eansor  
Faculty of Law, University of Windsor**

**Cameron Tsuji  
Department of Earth Sciences, University of Western Ontario**

**3M Teaching Awards**

**HEAD OF THE CLASS**

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**In a chemistry class with more than 2,500 students, Lock likes to get their attention by making things explode. She sustains interest by finding a way to connect with every one. “To watch Dr. Lock in action is to witness something magical,” says a peer.**

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