The 2020 Chancellor's Award

Extraordinary commitment to Regent's mission. Powerful academic impact.

The recipient of the 2020 Chancellor's Award exemplifies a profound commitment to Regent, its mission, and its students.

A member of the Regent faculty since 2003, the recipient is a dedicated educator and scholar who has devoted himself to improving public education and teacher pedagogy. His years of teaching and research have resulted in continuous improvement of a leading-edge alternative teacher licensure program, which is one of only four—and the only one fully online—in the Commonwealth of Virginia. This program serves as a model for alternative licensure programs across the country.

Serving as the chair of this program for several years, the recipient has shepherded over 900 second-career students to new vocations in education, producing top teachers in area schools and impacting the educational experience of thousands of K-12 learners. The recipient's students consistently rate his teaching at the superior level. He always seeks student input to
improve his teaching and elevate student learning. Students praise his effectiveness at making abstract concepts clear and concrete and at offering them an exceptional learning experience.

The recipient regularly collaborates and consults with peers and students alike, seeking new insights and data to inform program excellence, particularly in the areas of teacher effectiveness, student learning and the impact of technology on learning communities. The recipient's ultimate desire is to see teachers develop an instructional experience that successfully connects with diverse learners.

The recipient of this distinguished honor will receive an engraved plaque and a $1,000 bonus. Congratulations to the recipient of the 2020 Chancellor's Award, Professor Mervyn Wighting from the School of Education!