

Citation for the IIT Board of Trustees Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching 2019

Hemanshu Kaul excels at a research-focused institution such as Illinois Tech because it is crucial to have professors who perform well, not only as classroom teachers but also as patient mentors to student researchers. Kaul, an associate professor of applied mathematics, excels in both arenas. He receives consistently strong evaluations from students who take his classes. Many students were moved to write long, detailed, and glowing letters of support for him. These letters are nearly unanimous in saying he is very caring and that he sets very high standards. As one student said, “If all teachers, professors, and lecturers taught mathematics as well as [Associate Professor] Kaul, the world would have many more mathematicians.” He is an undergraduate research advising machine creating good projects for undergraduates and making sure the students are successful and he has advised more graduate students in discrete mathematics than anyone else. Kaul supervises students for the mathematical modeling contest and he co-advises the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics club, helping develop a new lecture series called My Favorite Theorem as an introduction to the beautiful and exciting world of mathematics. We can think of no one more deserving, and welcome this opportunity to spotlight his exceptional contributions.