2017 PRESIDENTIAL AWARD

The Presidential Award recognizes distinguished service to the University over an extended period of time. In the nearly four decades since this year’s winner arrived on campus as an assistant professor of English, he has again and again—and again—answered the call to serve, no matter where it has come from. He has been his department’s director of graduate studies and its chair, director of the Ph.D. in Literature program and co-director of Italian Studies at Notre Dame. He has directed the Notre Dame London Program and been interim assistant provost for international studies as well as acting director of both the Glynn Family Honors Program and the Nanovic Institute for European Studies back when they each had different names. He has helped shape Notre Dame through service on some of its major governance bodies, such as the Academic Council and Faculty Senate, and a host of other advisory and ad hoc committees as well, all while at the same time building a track record as a literary scholar that long ago earned him promotion to an endowed chair. Even this past semester, just a few months away from retirement, he could still be found working with students well into the evening in the offices of The Hesburgh-Yusko Scholars Program, because fittingly enough, he is the director of that, too.

The University of Notre Dame is proud to present the 2017 Presidential Award to

Joseph A. Buttigieg  
William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of English  
Director, The Hesburgh-Yusko Scholars Program