2018 THOMAS P. MADDEN AWARD

Honoring a faculty member who excels at teaching first-year undergraduates, the Thomas P. Madden Award goes this year to a beloved instructor of the “Principles of Microeconomics” course. In addition to serving as the first class in the economics major, it is required for business students and a popular option for fulfilling the core curriculum’s social science requirement, with our honoree structuring his lectures and assignments so that everyone, regardless of major, leaves understanding how economists think about problems. Students progress from problem sets covering the basics of economic theory all the way to puzzles where they attempt to explain certain market behaviors, such as why wedding dresses are purchased but tuxedoes are rented. His students routinely comment on how he makes classes with enrollments of around 90 feel smaller and more personal by incorporating interactive learning techniques. In the end, his love for economics as a discipline and a thought process is contagious and the greatest gift he passes on to his students.

The University of Notre Dame is proud to present the 2018 Thomas P. Madden Award to

Forrest R. Spence
Assistant Professor of the Practice, Department of Economics