2019 PRESIDENTIAL AWARD

The Presidential Award recognizes distinguished service to the University over an extended period of time. This year’s winner—a world-renowned expert on infant sleep and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science—has circled the globe giving invited talks to academic and non-academic audiences alike, representing the best of our University by weaving science and humanism into his memorable presentations. Beloved by students, he has won the Kaneb, Joyce, Madden, and Sheedy teaching awards at Notre Dame. In 2001, the same year he began a four-year term as chair of his department, he was appointed to the Rev. Edmund P. Joyce, C.S.C., Chair in Anthropology, a position he held until his retirement this past December. One colleague who nominated him for this award concluded by noting he has been a model, for all of us at Notre Dame, of “our potential to do good in the world.”

The University of Notre Dame is proud to present the 2019 Presidential Award to

James J. McKenna  
Professor Emeritus of Anthropology