2019 RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

A distinguished humanist whose work has garnered extraordinary acclaim, the recipient of this year’s Research Achievement Award probes the intersections of science and literature. She has developed a wide-ranging intellectual program that brings the thinking of American Transcendentalists like Thoreau and Emerson to bear on urgent contemporary questions about nature, sustainability, and the Anthropocene. Her most recent book, *Henry David Thoreau: A Life*, has had a major impact, winning Phi Beta Kappa’s Christian Gauss Award and the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize for biography; Chinese, Korean, and Spanish translations are forthcoming. Her 2009 book, *The Passage to Cosmos: Alexander von Humboldt and the Shaping of America*, won the Modern Language Association’s prestigious James Russell Lowell Prize, among other honors. Conveying a seriousness of purpose while expressing the joy that accompanies intellectual discovery, she is also a dedicated mentor of graduate and undergraduate students alike.

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

Laura Dassow Walls  
*William P. and Hazel B. White Professor of English*