

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