

## **2021 FACULTY AWARD**

The Faculty Award honors a faculty member who, in the opinion of his or her colleagues, has contributed outstanding service to the University, such as through leadership, mentoring, or exemplary dedication to students. Since joining the Notre Dame faculty in 2009, Michael Pfrender has leveraged his expertise in evolutionary genetics to lead the Genomics & Bioinformatics Core Facility as its founding director. He is also currently serving as associate chair of the Department of Biological Sciences. In the classroom, he was part of the initial cohort of faculty who taught the new introductory course in biological sciences, which is designed around innovative and inclusive pedagogy. Over the past year, he spearheaded the expansion of the Genomics Core facility into the University's site for saliva-based surveillance screening for SARS-CoV-2. Surveillance testing has been critical in tracking and suppressing infection rates, allowing the University to operate safely and effectively during the pandemic.

The University of Notre Dame is proud to present the 2021 Faculty Award to

**Michael Pfrender**  
*Professor of Biological Sciences*