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. Nicole McNeil is an expert in the cognitive development of children focused on how kids think, learn, communicate, and solve mathematical problems. She is the director of the popular undergraduate minor in Education, Schooling, and Society and the Department of Psychology’s Cognition, Learning, and Development Lab. She has also used her research to expand the reach of education far beyond the classroom. With schools limited to remote learning during the pandemic, she was critical to the success of TutorND, helping launch a range of evidence-based educational and learning supports for children of Notre Dame faculty and staff in grades K-12, leading to significant academic growth for enrolled students even in the difficult circumstances caused by COVID-19. Her work involved supervising the recruitment of undergraduate tutors, as well as the design and implementation of curricula, training, and assessments.

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

Nicole M. McNeil

Alliance for Catholic Education College Professor of Psychology