
2024 DOCKWEILER AWARDS

The Dockweiler Awards recognize excellence in academic advising as a key component of the Notre Dame student experience. Through thousands of advising meetings and more than 14 years of experience, Joseph Stanfiel has honed what he and a colleague have termed “philosophical advising.” Rather than “box checking,” philosophical advising involves incisive conversations with students to guide them through discernment in order to identify their intellectual interests and form a coherent academic plan. Dean Stanfiel helps students understand that each requirement across their degree and within individual programs ought to contribute to an integral whole whose coherence they can articulate and defend, one that is rooted in an organizing principle, intellectual aspiration, or professional goal. Beyond getting students to contribute to the creation of knowledge, he shows students how research projects elicit coherence across the degree. He also advises the Dean’s Fellows, a program in which students help to develop co-curricular programming for undergraduates across the University; has contributed to the shared intellectual life of the Notre Dame community; and served as a lauded colleague and mentor.

The University of Notre Dame is proud to present this 2024 Dockweiler Award for Excellence in Advising to

Joseph Stanfiel

Assistant Dean, Office of Undergraduate Studies in the College of Arts & Letters
