



### **Distinguished Service Award 2021**

This award is to be given to a full-time faculty member who has contributed significant service to the University of Mount Union and/or the community at large.

This year's award winner is Dr. Robert Ekey, professor of physics and chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy. A colleague wrote in her nomination of Dr. Ekey that "[I]n my four years here at Mount Union, I have not yet come across another faculty member who has served this institution with the level of dedication, thoughtfulness, good humor, and care as I see from Bob each and every day."

Apart from assuming the roles and responsibilities of department chair, Dr. Ekey has also been a dedicated member of the Executive Faculty Advisory Board (EFAB) and the Tenure, Promotion and Continuation Committee. According to a colleague who served with him on EFAB, Dr. Ekey "helped to lead a process that was open, honest, fair, transparent, inclusive, and institutionally centered, placing personal and group affiliation interests second to the best interests of the University." Other university service commitments have included Faculty Senate, Faculty Appeals Board, and the Pre-Health Professions Committee, to name but a few.

In the words of one university colleague, "Dr. Robert Ekey—tireless servant and defender of the faculty, beloved advisor and mentor, trusted colleague, and valued friend—is a credit to his profession and to the University of Mount Union. Through his work, Dr. Ekey continues to 'model responsible citizenship to our students' and to 'distinguish himself as a public servant'."

Congratulations, Bob!