

LEVENT TUNÇEL

Convocation citation, June 13 2014

The Distinguished Teacher Award was established by the Senate of the University to recognize individuals with a continued record of excellence in teaching at Waterloo. Recipients must be nominated by their students and are selected by a committee consisting of undergraduate and graduate students, alumni and faculty.

Since joining the Department of Combinatorics and Optimization in 1992, Professor Tunçel has made many outstanding contributions to the development and teaching of optimization courses at all levels, and to undergraduate and graduate student supervision.

Professor Tunçel has introduced and redesigned several courses including Introduction to Optimization, Mathematical Optimization, Scheduling, and Semidefinite Optimization. He excels in graduate student supervision, and has also supervised a dozen undergraduate research assistants.

Professor Tunçel has earned a reputation for setting very high standards and demanding the best from his students. He sets the tone by example. Students have praised his incredible work ethic and dedication to teaching, describe him as friendly, enthusiastic, and approachable, and note his keen sense of humor. They cite his genuine concern for their intellectual development and the valuable advice he provides about graduate studies.

As well as being an outstanding teacher and researcher, Professor Tunçel has served terms as the C&O department's Associate Chair for Undergraduate Studies and Associate Chair for Graduate Studies. He served for two years as the Math Faculty's Associate Dean for Graduate Studies, and tirelessly advocated for excellence in the faculty's graduate programs.