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## Lesley University alumna, former faculty member wins Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

Posted by Matt Rocheleau December 23, 2013 03:04 PM

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By Matt Rocheleau, Boston.com Staff

President Barack Obama has named an alumna and former faculty member of Lesley University in Cambridge as one of this year's recipients of the prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

Holly Doe a technology integration specialist in the Pelham, NH school district was one of 102 teachers nationwide to receive the award given annually to the country's top K-12 science and mathematics teachers, White House officials **announced** last week.

Doe has been a leader in robotics education in her school district, teaching robotics to students as young as grade one, according to officials at Lesley.

"I think the thing we don't value enough right now is that engineering can start at the elementary level," Doe said in a statement from Lesley University. "If we start teaching at the elementary level and we bring the arts and creativity into it, we can engage more students, especially girls, in the science and engineering fields."

Winners of the honor receive a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation to use at their discretion, and are invited to Washington, D.C., for an awards ceremony and several days of educational and celebratory events, including visits with members of Congress and the president's administration, White House officials said.

Doe, a Maine native, earned a master's degree in educational technology from Lesley University in 1999 and also served on the Lesley faculty, teaching courses on technology for a number of years.

"She serves as a model of the important role that highly effective teachers play in our schools and our nation," said a statement from Jonathon Gillette, dean of Lesley's Graduate School of Education. "And, she exemplifies Lesley's commitment to providing teachers with a solid foundation and the tools to continuously improve their craft in order to have a tangible, lasting impact in the classroom."

Also **among this year's winners** were two Massachusetts educators: science teacher Erin Dukeshire of Roxbury and math instructor Jessica Findlay of Douglas.

E-mail Matt Rocheleau at [matthew.rocheleau@globe.com](mailto:matthew.rocheleau@globe.com).

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