The UConn School of Engineering

The 2019 G. Michael Howard Engineering Education Lectureship

In 1961, Dr. G. Michael Howard began his 50-year affiliation with the Chemical Engineering department at UConn, during which he served as a professor, associate dean, acting department head, and professor emeritus. In his time at UConn, he received numerous teaching honors and awards, including the Outstanding Teacher Award from the Student Government, the Rogers Corporation Outstanding Teacher Award in Chemical Engineering, and induction into the UConn School of Engineering Academy of Distinguished Engineers. Nationally, he was a respected leader in undergraduate education and involved in both the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) and the American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE). After his retirement, Mike and his family established the Mike Howard Educational Excellence Fund which supports various undergraduate education initiatives in the Chemical Engineering department. In celebration of Mike’s life and passions, the School of Engineering is proud to support this lecture series in his memory, which brings outstanding individuals in the field of Engineering Education to the University of Connecticut.
Margot Vigeant is a Professor of Chemical Engineering at Bucknell University and received her Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Virginia. Margot’s broad research area is effective pedagogy in engineering, including approaches to conceptual learning, inquiry-based activities for thermodynamics and heat transfer, and entrepreneurially-minded learning in engineering. She is also interested in “making” in engineering, using educational and online technology to broaden engagement and access, and games as learning tools. She has given numerous workshops and talks in these areas, including a 2019 webinar for the AIChE Education Division on engaging students with food-based examples. She teaches chemical engineering thermodynamics, applied food science and engineering, and capstone design. She is an Apple Distinguished Educator and chair of the 2021 ASEE Chemical Engineering Summer School.