

Lara Pudwell is cited as the faculty member with the leading performance in teaching at all levels, the most prolific faculty member publishing undergraduate research with student co-authors, and the faculty member with the most contact and impact on student learning outside of campus at Valparaiso University. Her students describe her as one of the most approachable, effective, patient, inspiring, engaging, and amazing teachers they have ever had. One of her colleagues describes her as “wonderful in her effectiveness, organization, ability to motivate, and in her concern for students.” She has made a significant impact within her department, as many of her colleagues have adopted her creative “homework check” quizzes, and also at the university-level, as the *Experimental Mathematics* course she designed has been added to the official university catalog. Dr. Pudwell has led many undergraduate research projects with Valparaiso students, and her students have regularly presented their work at the Valparaiso Celebration of Undergraduate Scholarship, the Indiana Section MAA meeting, and the Joint Mathematics Meetings. Students in her summer REU programs have published their work in significant peer-reviewed journals, and Dr. Pudwell was one of three national recipients of the 2013 Faculty Mentoring Award from the Mathematics and Computer Science Division of the Council on Undergraduate Research. In addition, Dr. Pudwell mentors for *Discoveries Unlimited*, encouraging middle school girls to pursue interest in STEM fields. For all of these reasons and more we recommend Lara Pudwell for the Alder Award.