ANTHONY S. ABBOTT

Inspiring, devoted, enthusiastic, demanding, are some adjectives that former students use to describe this distinguished Davidson professor. Many of this professor’s students have become college professors themselves and, reflecting upon their careers, they have concluded that the recipient of this award had a most decisive influence on their lives. An alumnus, now a college professor, expressed his appreciation in this manner: “Among a memorable set of teachers . . . [this professor] stands out in my mind as the one person whose enthusiasm, care, and knowledge did the most to set me on the way to my vocation.” An alumna has written: “It was not just [this professor’s] willingness to mentor me personally that made a difference, however, it was also the environment . . . in the classroom. There was less a climate of competition than one of mutual engagement . . .” Another former student, describing why this professor’s courses were so distinctively excellent, said: “Part of the reason was the well chosen material; more was the engaging lucidity of the instructor, whose lectures, readings, explications, and discussions moved us toward appreciation of even the most arcane texts on the syllabus.”

Because you are a teacher of teachers, a mentor of writers, a director of actors, and a good friend to many students who, with your guidance, have come to appreciate and love beauty and knowledge;

Because you have generously offered to others the magnificent
complexity of your talents and your unrestricted enthusiasm;

Because your students love your teaching and you love teaching your students;

We name you, Anthony S. Abbott, recipient of the Hunter-Hamilton Love of Teaching Award for 1997.