

**Profile of
Rickie-Ann Legleitner
Associate Professor of English; Adviser for Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies;
Inclusive Excellence Action Plan Coordinator; and
Interim Executive Director of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
University of Wisconsin–Stout
2023 Regents Diversity Award Individual Recipient**

Highlights from nomination materials:

- Ph.D., English, University of South Dakota; M.A., English, DePaul University; B.A., English, Aquinas College.
- Recognized for outstanding contributions as a teacher, scholar, and LGBTQ+ individual and advocate.
- Offers time and expertise to colleagues across UW-Stout and UW System while serving as an advocate and adviser for students.
- In January 2021, partnered with Chancellor to develop the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Team (EDIT) with representatives from each campus governance group to ensure continual campus constituent feedback and a channel to communicate about EDI initiatives and the Inclusive Excellence Action Plan.
- Collaborated with EDI Executive Director and Chancellor to create EDI Unit and EDI Office; involved shifting Multicultural Student Services (MSS), the Qube (LGBTQIA+ resource center), and TRIO Student Support Services to this unit to better serve historically underserved, underrepresented students.
- Revised Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) Minor, including new course requirements to ensure that the minor is more inclusive; recruits and advises students as an adviser for WGSS program.
- Oversaw a major initiative to build out equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) professional development at UW-Stout in summer 2021; approximately 100 faculty and staff have enrolled in the resulting EDI Canvas modules and 127 faculty and staff have participated in the in-person workshops.
- Nominated for important allyship awards by students at UW-Stout; published and presented her work to a national audience; and taught courses in multiple units while also balancing corresponding departmental service and advising work.
- Has worked with the UW-Stout Menard Center for the Study of Institutions and Innovation to expand work on initiatives around freedom of expression.
- Member of Equity in Mental Health on Campus Committee, focused on mental health of students of color.
- Spring 2022 keynote speaker for UW-Stout's annual Qubie Gayla celebrating Stout's LGBTQIA+ community.
- A leader in the Women's and Gender Studies Consortium (WGSC) in the UW System.
- Select Awards: 2022 Enterprising Woman, *Tagg Magazine* (national publication); UW System's 2021 Dr. P.B. Poorman Award for Outstanding Achievement on behalf of LGBTQ+ People; College of Arts, Communication, Humanities and Social Sciences (CACHSS) Outstanding Teaching Award, UW-Stout, 2020–2021.

In the words of Dr. Legleitner:

- "I strive to make education inclusive and accessible for all students, and I aim to create an inclusive work and community environment that is sustainable, accountable, and collaborative—a space where all faculty, staff, and students can bring their full selves and thrive."

In the words of colleagues:

- "[I]t is an understatement to emphasize how fortunate UW-Stout is to have Dr. Legleitner as a member of both the faculty and administrative team....She is a passionate, courageous, dedicated, and authentic professional who impacts students, colleagues, and university partners on a daily basis."—*Katherine P. Frank, Chancellor, UW-Stout*
- "Rickie-Ann is a collaborator, a leader, and a change-maker in our university community and throughout UW System."—*Dominique Vargas, Executive Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Western Oregon University; former Senior Diversity Officer, UW-Stout*