

**Mid-Career Biology Mentor Award:
Dr. Hinsaleasure, Professor of Biology, Grinnell College**

Dr. Hinsaleasure received her PhD at Dartmouth Medical School and completed her postdoctoral training at Michigan State University before joining Grinnell College as an Assistant Professor in 2007. Since then, she has successfully mentored ~50 undergraduate research students on projects focused on microbial diversity, antibiotic resistance, and strategies for bacterial survival. Dr. Hinsaleasure provides research opportunities that not only teach microbiology techniques, but she also provides opportunities for her students to learn about navigating community-engaged research that requires careful relationship building, and the importance of collaborations in science. Through this work, nine of her undergraduate research students have been authored on four publications in the past nine years, and twenty-three of her undergraduate research students have contributed to and/or presented work at regional and national conferences. Not surprisingly, the vast majority of these students, ~80%, have gone on to pursue graduate degrees in a STEM field. Because of Dr. Hinsaleasure's commitment to increasing diversity in STEM, most of these students have been women, first-generation students, or underrepresented students which have had an opportunity to work with Dr. Hinsaleasure through the Grinnell Science Project, the Grinnell's Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation, and the Cech Scholars programs, all of which provide research experience for underrepresented students. One of the most impressive aspects of Dr. Hinsaleasure's mentorship is her ability to be transparent and vulnerable about her own experiences in STEM. One nominator shared, "But Hinsaleasure doesn't merely provide opportunities for these students to conduct and present research-she provides them with the tools they need to navigate the racism, sexism, and other biases that they may encounter in their careers... By sharing her personal experiences, she creates safe spaces for students to have conversations about how to rise above the challenges they may face and how to find allies and advocates who will support them." This sentiment was echoed by a former student of Dr. Hinsaleasure who shared, "I respect and appreciate her commitment to ensuring that scientific spaces were comfortable and safe for all individuals, taking into account the different experiences and perspectives of BIPOC students." Collectively, Dr. Hinsaleasure is providing the excellent scientific training that all future scientists need, but more importantly, she is teaching them how to navigate and find their voice in a world that requires that to truly succeed.