Sai Bhatawadekar, recipient of the Board of Regents’ Excellence in Teaching Award. Sai Bhatawadekar did her Masters in German Film Studies (Wim Wenders’ films) and her PhD in German-Indian Comparative Philosophy. She has written articles on Schopenhauer and Vedanta, Cross-cultural theory, and Hegel and Islam. She has also published on the depiction of Indian diaspora in Bollywood. While at Ohio State University, she created and designed a new Hindi language and culture program and taught it very successfully for 6 years. She is designing and teaching the Hindi-Urdu program at the Department of Indo-Pacific Languages and Literatures. She is on the board of the Honolulu Bollywood Film Festival and has also started a Bollywood dance group—Aaja Nachle. Sai brings her acting, singing, and dancing skills into the classroom to create a Bollywood inspired learning atmosphere. Her students have shown incredible creativity, poetic sensibility, melodrama, and just pure joy in learning. Besides the Board of Regents’ Medal for Excellence in Teaching at UH, her teaching has earned her the University Teaching Award at Ohio State.

Patrick Woo, recipient of the 2012-2013 LLL Excellent in Teaching Award. An Instructor in the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures since 1990, Patrick Woo has devoted himself to the Japanese language program at UHM for over 20 years. In addition to teaching Japanese language courses at all levels, he also teaches literature courses in translation and special Japanese reading and writing courses for bilingual students. He was the Lower Level Japanese Language Program Coordinator in 2003 and 2005, and has served as the Resident Director for the UHM summer program at the Konan University in Kobe, Japan (2001 and 2003) and for the Year-in-Japan Study Abroad Program at the J.F. Oberlin University in Tokyo, Japan (2007-2008). Noted for his enthusiasm and creative teaching style, he received the
2007 Frances Davis Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, a system-wide award that recognizes dedication and demonstrated excellence as teachers of undergraduate students.

Robert McHenry, winner of the 2012-2013 LLL Excellence in Teaching Award. Robert McHenry has teaching and research interests in Restoration and 18th Century literature, Shakespeare, and the relationship among literature, the visual arts, and music. His students are invariably enthused about his willingness to tease out the full range of delights and utilities in drama and literature, and find that his generous, welcoming spirit defines what it means to be a truly great teacher.

Marta González-Lloret, recipient of the 2012-2013 LLL Excellent in Teaching Award. Dr. Marta González-Lloret, associate professor of Spanish, specializes in Second Language Acquisition, Spanish Applied Linguistics, Pragmatics and Technology and Language Instruction. Marta just returned from the Conference on Task-Based Language Teaching in Alberta, Canada where she presented a paper. Previously she served as the interim director of the Language Learning Center, which is now the Center for Language and Technology.