When Diane J. Tedick sees a need, she fills it. An expert in foreign language education, she made her signature contribution by founding a 15-credit graduate certificate program in dual language and immersion education. She based it on a thorough assessment of need and collaborated with colleagues at the University, local school districts, and teachers.

In 2013 she and a former student won a coveted national award for research in foreign language education.

Recently, she led a major revision of the M.Ed. in Interdisciplinary Studies program to align better with school districts’ needs and help teachers deepen their knowledge and hone their skills. Further, in her eight-year tenure as director of graduate studies, she actively sought grants and fellowships, gained experience by serving on Graduate School committees, and, in short, led her department in transforming its graduate program.

Tedick also directed the grant-funded Content-Based Language Teaching with Technology project for seven years and has become a sought-after expert in online learning.

“Dr. Tedick’s online courses are some of the best learning experiences I have had,” says a former student.

Her students also benefit tremendously from her one-on-one help with every aspect of their education.

“Professor Tedick is a one-of-a-kind mentor, one that I have not come across since I have graduated and started working in academia, and the type I aspire to be,” notes an admiring former student.  

Diane J. Tedick, 2014–15 Distinguished Teacher
Postbaccalaureate, Graduate, and Professional Teaching Award

“Fu consider my classes ‘communities of practice’ where together we share a passion for language teaching and learn to do it better as we interact with one another.”

Associate Professor
Department of Curriculum and Instruction
College of Education and Human Development
University of Minnesota Twin Cities

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A metaphor for the source of knowledge, this tree has been the emblem of the Academy of Distinguished Teachers since 1993.