



News Release

Missouri Western State College • 4525 Downs Drive • St. Joseph, MO 64507 • (816) 271-5649

Contact: Kristy Hill

Phone: (816)-271-5649

Title: Public Relations/Marketing Director

Email: hillk@mwsc.edu

WESTERN HOLDS ANNUAL FACULTY AND STAFF AWARDS CEREMONY

St. Joseph, Mo. — May 13, 2004—Missouri Western State College recently honored employees at their annual faculty and staff awards ceremony. Eight employees received special awards, and 76 faculty and staff were recognized for their years of service at Western.

Dr. Ken Rosenauer, associate professor of journalism, received the Dr. James V. Mehl Outstanding Faculty Scholarship Award. The award is given annually to a faculty member who has shown unusually significant and meritorious achievement in professional scholarship.

Three faculty members were recipients of the Jesse Lee Myers Excellence in Teaching Award: Dr. Cindy Heider, assistant professor of teacher education; Dr. Mitchell Haney, assistant professor of philosophy; and Dr. Sharon Vestal, assistant professor of mathematics. The Myers Award is given annually to faculty members who demonstrate extraordinary teaching ability and make outstanding contributions to either scholarly and professional activities or institutional and community service.

-more-

Page 2 of 3 – Employee Awards

Four staff members received Presidential Citations: Mary Beth Alpers, Linda Garlinger, Wayne Krause and Jerry Partridge. The citations are given to employees who have made outstanding contributions to the college through the performance of their duties. They have shown a commitment to a student-centered focus in providing services, and they have participated in college and community activities.

Dr. Rosenauer has taught for 28 years and is the editor of the College Media Review. His textbook, “Storycrafting: A Process Approach to Writing News,” will be published in July 2004. He is an inductee of the College Media Advisors Hall of Fame and a recipient of a Gold Key from the Scholastic Press Association. He also made a presentation at a national conference last year.

Dr. Heider is the coordinator of preservice teacher placement at Western. She co-facilitated the first annual Educator Institute for the St. Joseph School District, and serves as a member of a national Board of Examiners for educators. In Dr. Heider’s nomination letter, it was noted that she has high standards and expectations for students, and her peers view her as a master teacher.

Dr. Haney, chair of the department of history, philosophy and geography, is a member of the campus Learning Community and a member of Western’s Foundations of Excellence Project task force. Last year, he published an article in the “Journal of Social Philosophy” and gave a presentation at a national conference. Dr. Haney was called “challenging and student-centered” in his nomination.

-more-

Page 3 of 3 – Employee Awards

Dr. Vestal was the principal investigator of a \$294,200 grant from the National Science Foundation and is described as a conscientious and dedicated classroom teacher. She has hosted several mathematics colloquiums, and serves as the public information officer and as liaison coordinator for the Missouri section of the Mathematical Association of America. Dr. Vestal published an article in 2003 in a prestigious American Mathematical Society publication.

Alpers has worked at Western since 1997 and currently serves as the administrative assistant in the health, physical education and recreation department.

Garlinger has served as director of career services since 1989. She has also been active in various community organizations.

For the past eight years, Krause has worked as Western's mechanic. He is a one-man operation, servicing and repairing the college's motor fleet.

Partridge has been Western's head football coach for over seven years. Under his guidance, the 2003 football team earned a record of 9-3 and was named MIAA Co-Champions, Mineral Water Bowl Champions and a Consensus All-America Selection.

Dr. Pat McLear, professor of history, and Dr. Elizabeth Latosi Sawin, professor of English, were among those honored for their years of service, both dedicating 30 years to Western.

—end—

Missouri Western State College is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The college offers student-centered, high quality instruction that focuses on experience-based learning, community service, and state-of-the-art technology. Western is located in St. Joseph, Mo. and is committed to the educational, economic, cultural and social development of the region it serves.