

Roundtable

Center for
Teaching,
Learning &
Technology

Holiday Edition 2004

Merry Christmas, Murray State!

This holiday season Murray State can again celebrate an impressive array of public kudos. As in years past, CTLT turned to our students to gain insight on the role that faculty play in that success. In the fall of 2001, we placed a form on RacerNet asking students to nominate a special faculty member for great teacher recognition. The response was overwhelming, and we published the “nominations” in the first Holiday edition of the *Roundtable*. We have maintained the form on RacerNet under the Student FYI tab. Students have discovered and used it with no encouragement, special incentive, or reward.

As you read this year’s nominations, you will note the relationship between what our students reported and the research on the scholarship of teaching. Chickering and Gamson’s classic *Seven Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Education*¹ is a widely recognized standard for excellence in instruction. We have highlighted the *Principles* throughout this edition of the *Roundtable*. As you read through it, you will see that good practice is alive and well in our faculty.

Please note that these nominations were NOT scientifically gathered and are certainly not comprehensive. Many students never saw the form, and many great faculty are not mentioned here. What the response does indicate, however, is the strong connection between MSU faculty and students. We continue to be overwhelmed and gratified at the number of students who take the time to lobby for their instructors. It says a lot about our faculty—and a lot about our students.

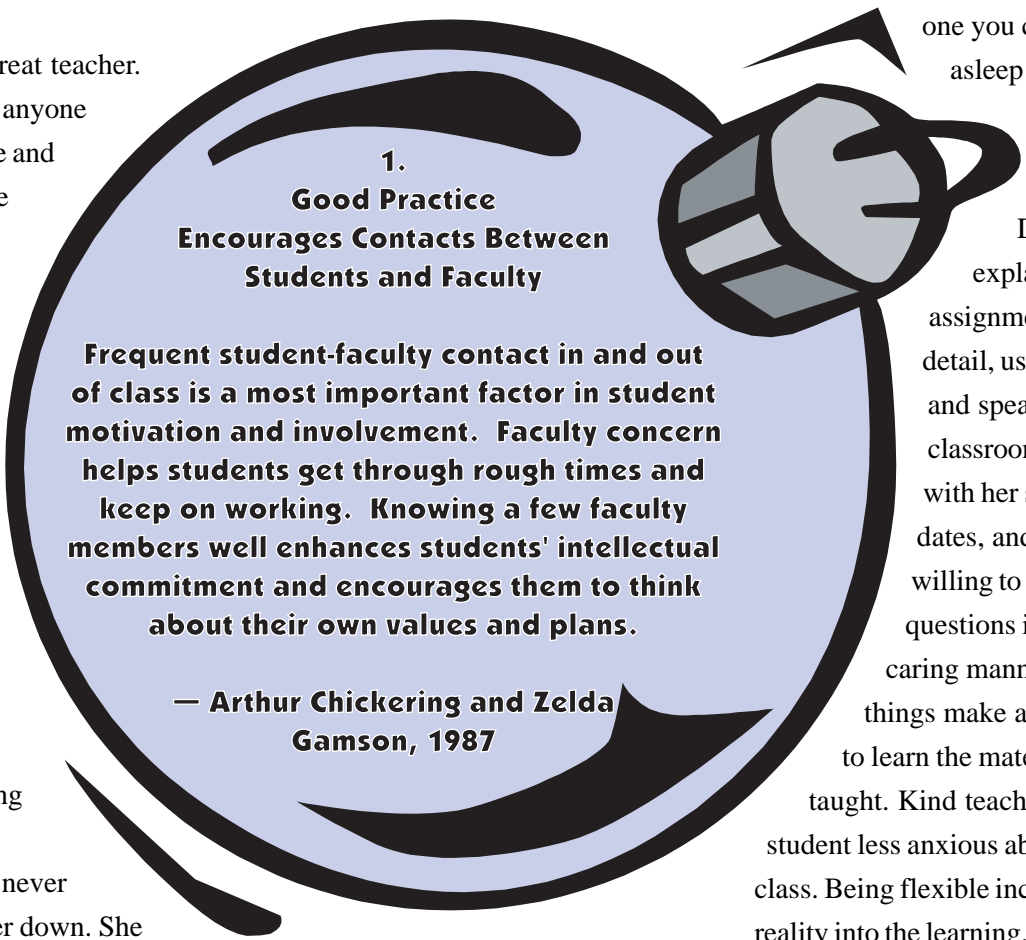
Happy Holidays!

¹ Chickering, A.W, and Gamson, Z.F. “Seven Principles for Good Practice in Undergraduate Education.” AAHE Bulletin, 1987, 39(7), 3-7.

Nancy Alderdice
Ms. Alderdice is a great teacher. She is willing to help anyone who is having trouble and showing that they are trying.

Nicole Hand
Nicole is an amazing teacher and wonderful mentor for all of her students. As a dedicated artist and teacher, she shows her students firsthand how to develop their own talents in a very caring and respectful environment. Nicole never lets anything slow her down. She does everything she can for her students. A teacher like this does not need to go unnoticed.

Crystal Coleman
Dr. Coleman has been a true inspiration to me this past year. She has listened to my problems, lent a shoulder when all seemed impossible, and gave me hope when I felt lost. Dr. Coleman gave me guidance when I felt there was no other path. She has given me an outlook on life and has guided me to directions with goals. This time last year I was confused as to where I wanted to go in life; I was in a major that seemed like an impossible task. Dr. Coleman guided me to a major in which I feel



**1.
Good Practice
Encourages Contacts Between
Students and Faculty**

Frequent student-faculty contact in and out of class is a most important factor in student motivation and involvement. Faculty concern helps students get through rough times and keep on working. Knowing a few faculty members well enhances students' intellectual commitment and encourages them to think about their own values and plans.

— Arthur Chickering and Zelda Gamson, 1987

confident. She is a professor I can always come back to and talk about how wonderful life is as well as talk about the more serious issues that may be occurring. Thanks, Dr. Coleman!

Cynthia Gayman
Cynthia Gayman is what a quality professor is all about. Her classes allow students to express themselves openly and honestly about all issues of life. She is very understanding and much like a mother to me. Dr. Gayman takes the material for class and makes it fun and easy to learn. She takes her job seriously, and it shows in her lectures. Her class is

one you can't fall asleep in. I love Dr. Gayman!

Celia Wall
Dr. Wall explains what each assignment entails in detail, uses handouts and speakers in the classroom, is flexible with her syllabus due dates, and is always willing to answer questions in a kind and caring manner. All these things make a student want to learn the material being taught. Kind teachers make a student less anxious about coming to class. Being flexible incorporates reality into the learning.

Gerry Muuka
Dr. Muuka has truly been outstanding in his dedication in working with our online 2004 Summer Class Strategic Management. He has shown a great deal of interest in us actually learning the material by giving us ongoing constructive feedback. He has worked long hours, in some cases until midnight, helping us with our Capstone case. He has been flexible in adjusting his schedule to meet the needs of the non-traditional students. His hard work and encouragement have been exceptional.

Gail Hendon
Ms. Hendon is a wonderful teacher

assignments so that we do it on our own and learn how to be independent with what we are given. Her time goes out to those in need, whether it be help with classes or just day-to-day life. Thank you, Mrs. Duffy, for the wonderful attitude you keep in the department and outside the department. You have made more of an impact on the lives of students on campus than you will ever know.

Jacqueline Hansen
Dr. Hansen is a phenomenal professor and a great role model for students in the College of Education. She is not only a professional teacher, but a friend. Dr. Hansen is very approachable. She honestly makes me want to be a teacher. Dr. Hansen effectively instructs future teachers

and prepares them for the real teaching world. I believe that she is an asset to college of education. She believes that if anyone wants to become a teacher, they can! I believe that Dr. Hansen is very worthy of any outstanding teacher award. Thank you for just being great!

Larry Guin
Dr. Guin spent the first half of the semester in Regensburg, Germany teaching Murray State students who were studying at the University of Regensburg. He did an excellent job of instructing his classes and was very accessible outside of the classroom. He always had great travel recommendations and was present at all of the program events. He made certain that students were

doing well and enjoying themselves. Dr. Guin is outstanding and deserves to be recognized for the great person that he is.

David Ferguson
Dr. Ferguson makes sure that everyone completely understands the material.

Renee Fister
Dr. Fister is an amazing person! Not only is she a gifted instructor, but she also has the ability to make each student feel important. The care she shows both inside and outside of the classroom makes her an exceptional teacher.



Congratulations to the Recognized Faculty

- | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Nancy Alderdice | Anthony Gannon | Barbara Malinauskas | Eric Umstead |
| Thayle Anderson | Cynthia Gayman | Eileen Mason | Robert Valentine |
| Bassam Atieh | Greg Gierhart | Pam Matlock | Celia Wall |
| Kevin Binfield | Larry Guin | Melanie McCallon | Daniel Wann |
| Michael Bokeno | Nicole Hand | Patricia McCutchen | Roger Weis |
| Jim Booth | Jacqueline Hansen | Fred Miller | Jamie Whidden |
| Tony Brannon | Lori Harris | Ann Minor | Matt Wiggins |
| Stephen Brown | Gail Hendon | Gerry Muuka | Pat Williams |
| Stephanie Carpenter | Mica Howe | Suguru Nakamura | Mary Lou Yeatts |
| Crystal Coleman | Dennis Johnson | Jeffrey Osbourne | |
| Ricky Cox | Linda Johnsonius | Michael Perlow | |
| Steven Cox | Steve Jones | Peggy Pittman-Munke | |
| James Davis | Lee Kem | Ivan Pulinkala | |
| Betty Driver | Ann Landini | Tafiq Rashid | |
| Cami Duffy | Mike Lanier | David Roach | |
| David Durr | Sheryl Lidzy | Jo Robertson | |
| David Eaton | Laura Liljequist | O. L. Robertson | |
| Pamela Edwards | Bommanna Loganathan | Winfield Rose | |
| David Ferguson | Paul Lucko | Mam-Yassin Sarr | |
| Renee Fister | Kenneth Macpherson | Joyce Shatzer | |

Michael Perlow

Dr. Perlow is full of knowledge and is a wonderful teacher. He is always informative, and it amazes me just how much he teaches in just a few words. His manner and behaviors are admirable. The Nursing program is not easy, but his experience and lectures prove just how rewarding a nursing career can be. He deserves recognition.

Lee Kem

Dr. Kem is the advisor for the College of Education Student Ambassadors. Dr. Kem's dedication and hard work far exceed any expectation she has been given in serving us as an advisor. Her enthusiasm and energy are hard to match or keep pace with during the year. Despite her large work load of teaching, directing the TES Advising Center, and serving as our advisor, Dr. Kem gives her best in everything and expects nothing less.

Pat McCutchen

Ms. McCutchen is very connective with her students, and her main goal is to make sure that you learn something from her. I can't wait to take another one of her classes!

Mam-Yassin Sarr

Mam-Yassin is such a thought-

provoking teacher. Just when I feel like I have a stance on a subject and have decoded the grey into black and

varies instruction and does not always lecture.

Mike Lanier

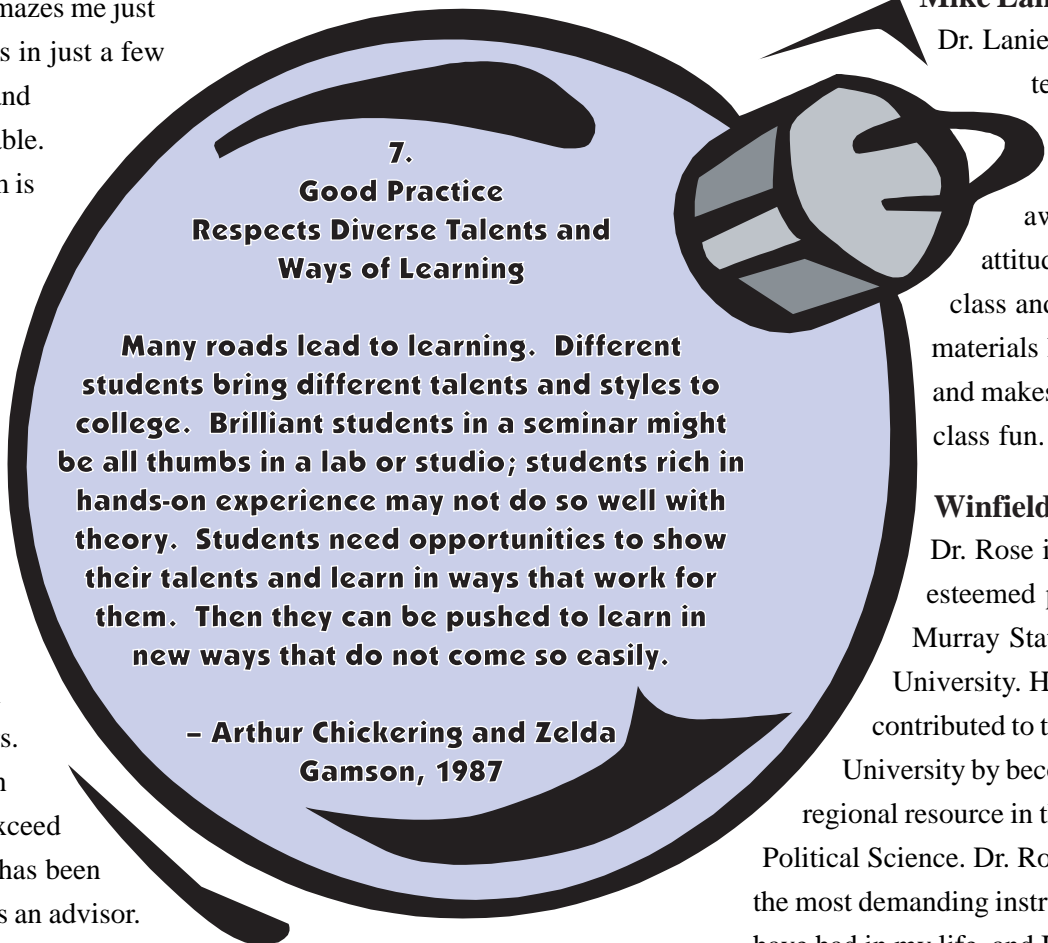
Dr. Lanier is a great teacher. He always has an awesome attitude about class and the materials her teaches, and makes coming to class fun.

Winfield Rose

Dr. Rose is an esteemed professor at Murray State University. He also has contributed to the University by becoming a regional resource in the field of Political Science. Dr. Rose is one of the most demanding instructors I have had in my life, and I and other students have learned readily in his classes. He is a source of inspiration for those who want to pursue scholarly work during their undergraduate career and beyond.

Cami Duffy

Mrs. Duffy has one of the most simple and relaxing, yet stretching, teaching styles that I have ever experienced. It was a great opportunity to be taught by someone who tells you what it is that you need to know, but does not give you all of the specifics that go along with the



white, she will throw in a wrench that will introduce new complexities of situations that I have not yet considered. Her purpose, however, is not to confuse students, but to jumpstart our minds into the thinking that college students should have.

Being in her class will greatly influence my college career decisions and thinking.

Joyce Shatzer

Professor Shatzer makes the class interesting and fun. She provides immediately usable practicums instead of a bunch of busy work. She

all-around and should be recognized. I learned a great deal from her, and she is a wonderful person.

Bommanna Loganathan

For the past two years I've conducted environmental research under Dr. Loganathan. I feel the research opportunity with Dr. Loganathan was instrumental to earning my acceptance to medical school. Since I am entering a health profession career, my research with Dr. Loganathan has opened my mind to possible environmental sources or contaminants that may lead to adverse effects upon human health.

Peggy Pittman-Munke

Dr. Pittman-Munke is a great instructor and really cares about students. Although I have only taken classes online and have never actually met her, I feel like I know and can say more to her than any other instructor I have ever had. She is very compassionate and fair. She is also very timely in grading assignments. I think she is wonderful, and I would recommend her classes to anyone who asks.

Pam Matlock

Mrs. Matlock is an awesome teacher. She pushes her students to do their best, and she shares in their achievements. She sets an example for education students of what a great teacher should be.

Ann Minor

Ms. Minor is so kind to her students.

Even after you no longer have her as an instructor, she always is smiling a smile and offering a kind word to brighten your day. She teaches students the basics in nursing, but she is way more than basic—she is a wonderful mentor, nurse, teacher, and role-model for all young women here at Murray State. Her caring ways reassure all of the nursing students of why we chose the profession.

Betty Driver

Professor Betty Driver is a wonderful teacher with the compassion for each one of her students. It was apparent the first day of class that Professor Driver really was concerned whether or not each student learned the material. She made class and the material interesting. It was also apparent that she was willing to go the extra mile to help students by holding study sessions and waiting around after class for some questions.

Winfield Rose

Dr. Winfield Rose creates an environment conducive to student learning. His expectations of the class are well-defined and precisely evaluated in his grading procedure.

Paul Lucko

Dr. Lucko is an amazing man. Not only is he the advisor for all Criminal Justice majors, but he is also an instructor, LAE advisor, and

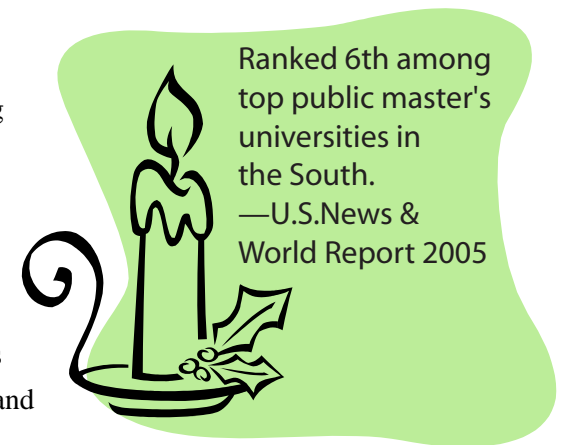
a friend. I have found Dr. Lucko to be caring and understanding with all of the people he comes in contact with. He is always available for any concerns or questions with any topic, and he encourages his students to express themselves. He would be the perfect candidate for great teacher.

James Davis

Dr. Davis has touched many lives over his 20 years of service to Murray State and the School of Agriculture. When you walk into his office in-between classes, you feel like you have just walked into a living room filled with family. Doc will do as much as he can to help a student—no matter if he just met you or if he has known you for a while. He is not only a great teacher, he is a mentor to many students in the Agriculture department, past and present.

Linda Johnsonius

Mrs. Johnsonius is a great teacher who has always been there to help me in my classes, whether I was in her class or not. That is a sign of a great teacher.



Jamie Whidden

I first came to know Dr. Whidden as a panelist at a forum held at Paducah Community College concerning the war in Iraq. I found him to be a kind and intelligent person. For the last two semesters I have taken classes under Dr. Whidden, and my initial impression of him has only been strengthened by this further exposure. Dr. Whidden is a very fair teacher who cares deeply that he conveys a degree of his knowledge to his students. Truly he is an academic who has a passion for teaching and deserves at least this degree of praise.

Cynthia Gayman

Dr. Gayman is an amazing teacher who is both fair and challenging. She is able to lead class discussions in a way that inspires the entire class to participate in sharing thoughts. She is always open to new ideas and has a true passion for teaching. While it is obvious how deeply concerned she is with whether or not her students are learning, she is also constantly striving to continue her own education in whatever forms possible (reading new books/essays, attending conferences, and conversing with other educators).

Ann Landini

Dr. Landini has been my academic advisor for the four years that I have been a student at Murray State. She has pushed me to be my best and has consistently made me work hard for my grade in her classes. Without her, I'm not sure I could have made it through this past semester. Dr. Landini always takes an interest in her students, knows what is going on with them, and goes out of her way to help them whenever they need it. Dr. Landini is one of the best faculty members I have come in contact with on Murray State's campus.

Matt Wiggins

Mr. Wiggins is one of the most inspiring

professors at Murray State. He is able to give help wherever it is needed and appreciates effort.

Pat McCutchen

Ms. McCutchen is understanding to students of all cultures and backgrounds. She is more than a teacher—she is a friend. She is always willing to listen to students, no matter what they need to talk about. She makes class interesting, and no one ever wants to skip class because she makes learning fun. She raps to help teach us the material in an interesting way. I could go on forever about what a wonderful teacher she is, and I'm sure if you ask anyone else who knows her they will agree she is the best!

Jim Booth

Dr. Booth is an excellent professor! He teaches so that everyone in his classes understands and learns. He makes class fun and interesting. He is very understanding and helpful. He is brilliant! A lot of students, including myself, think of him as the best professor ever!

2. Good Practice Develops Reciprocity and Cooperation Among Students

Learning is enhanced when it is more like a team effort than a solo race. Good learning, like good work, is collaborative and social, not competitive and isolated. Working with others often increases involvement in learning. Sharing one's ideas and responding to others' improves thinking and deepens understanding.

— Arthur Chickering and Zelda Gamson, 1987

again. He always took the time to help my classmates and me with any questions we had. He was always available and made things as clear as he could. I want to be a teacher when I graduate, and he has been a big influence on me and gives me more reasons to want to be a teacher. I want him to know that he is doing a great job and to keep up the good work. Because of his help, I am going to pass his class.

Laura Liljequist

Being an out-of-state African-American student coming from a big city and a predominantly black undergraduate institution, coming to Murray was a drastic change for me. It was hard for me to make the transition academically and socially, but Dr. Liljequist helped me overcome my fears in those areas. She let me know that I could make it even though I was different and encouraged me to do better in my classes during my second year of graduate school. She is a wonderful professor who is down-to-earth, wonderful to talk to, and who cuts no slack when turning in assignments. She is that one professor that you feel you can relate to and you feel like she relates to you back without judgement and with sincerity and empathy. I appreciate everything she has done for me and helped me accomplish in my tenure here at Murray State University. She is one professor I will always remember.

Her classes make learning fun. I actually look forward to reading assigned chapters for homework and completing assignments in her class. She's optimistic and finds new, simpler ways to convey hard ideas. She will leave a lasting impression on me, which in turn makes me leave Murray with a good, lasting impression on the school in general.

O. L. Robertson

Mr. Robertson is the kind of teacher anyone would love to have. He is a member of the School of Agriculture. Any of his students will tell you he has a passion for students learning and participating in class. I hope that when I become a teacher, I will be as good as him.

Ivan Pulinkala

Mr. Pulinkala is a great teacher. He is very gifted and encouraging and inspiring to teachers.

Stephen Brown

Throughout my university years, Dr. Brown has always followed the highest educational standards, inspiring his students to succeed. He expects a lot from his students, but he gives a lot as well, always providing encouragement and support. For the past four and a half years that he has been my professor in the Music Department, I have admired his knowledge and love of music. I know that because of Dr. Brown's teaching, I have been given a strong education, and

my love for music has grown exceedingly.

Greg Gierhart

Mr. Gierhart goes above and beyond the call of duty to make sure his students are able to take advantage of every education opportunity possible.

Steve Jones

What can I say about Dr. Jones? I have never met a professor quite like him. He brings to class everyday a new way to think about the world. He challenges us (his students) to think outside the box. I have enjoyed the two classes I have had the pleasure of taking from him. He shows an interest in what we think and feel about the world around us. Dr. Jones has left a mark on my life here at Murray State that I will not soon forget and will carry with me once I leave this institution. Thanks, Dr. Jones for being a great teacher.

Gail Hendon

Professor Hendon really cares about her students and always goes that extra step.

Ranked 18th in the nation among all public master's universities.
—U.S. News & World Report 2002–2005



Leadership and Counseling, is most commendable in her level of responsiveness to graduate students' queries and in her guidance of graduate students' research. Her vast experience and vision light the way for tomorrow's educational leaders — both regional and global. She is truly a great teacher!

Celia Wall

Dr. Wall is in the Department of Journalism and Mass Communications. She is a difficult instructor, but I walked out of the classroom feeling like I really learned something. She knows her subject matter, and she knows how to instruct her students so they gain an understanding of the subject matter, too. She is also my advisor. I feel that she would not suggest a class that is wrong for me or that she felt I could not handle. She always seems to be on top of things; she responds quickly to emails if I ever have any questions, and she is just an all-around great lady.

Ricky Cox

In my four years of college, I have never had a teacher so eager for their students to learn. Dr. Cox goes

above and beyond to help students during class and outside of class. He attends all lab sessions and helps, which is not required. He makes sure that the material covered is clear and understandable. I feel that teachers like Dr. Cox are very few and far between. He not only made Chemistry bearable, but fun, and that means more than most.

Daniel Wann

I have never had such a fun time going to class. Dr. Wann has made learning about psychology interesting and lots of

interested in the field of psychology and hope to take future classes taught by him.

Jeffrey Osbourne

Dr. Osbourne has made my HUM 211 class very interesting and informative. I enjoy the discussions that we have during our classtime. He allows us to think for ourselves and to develop our own interpretations of the material instead of just giving us the right answer.

Peggy Pittman-Munke

Dr. Pittman-Munke is a great teacher because she cares about students as individuals.

She cares that students get the grade, but much more, she wants students to understand and be able to apply the knowledge they have learned. Personally, Dr. Pittman-Munke has been an inspiration, challenging, and supportive while maintaining her professionalism. She is an example to all who take up Social Work. She is an academic elder who labors in her field; therefore, she is worthy of double honor.

Kenneth Macpherson

Mr. Macpherson teaches my algebra class. I haven't taken an algebra class in about three years, so it was like learning new things all over

6.
Good Practice Communicates High Expectations

Expect more and you will get it. High expectations are important for everyone — for the poorly prepared, for those unwilling to exert themselves, and for the bright and well motivated. Expecting students to perform well becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy.

– Arthur Chickering and Zelda Gamson, 1987

fun. The way that he presents the information to us in lectures is easy to remember and easy to see in/apply to everyday life. Because of the class that he taught, I'm very

Pamela Edwards

If it wasn't for Dr. Edwards, I wouldn't have made it through World Civilizations class. Thanks to her WONDERFUL TEACHING SKILLS, I have been able to not only pass both CIV 101/102, but I have also learned and retained information. Thank you, Dr. Edwards.

Mam-Yassin Sarr

Mam-Yassin is an awesome teacher! She has made a difference in the classroom because she makes students dig deep in their thoughts and views. She has made students realize who they are and where they stand on very controversial topics. She has helped students define who they are in this world.

Peggy Pittman-Munke

Dr. Pittman-Munke has made my experience at Murray State University one that I will remember for a lifetime. She has helped me so much throughout my time at Murray State. She is an outstanding instructor!

Lee Kem

Dr. Kem has been a wonderful addition to my learning program here at Murray State. She makes her classes fun, and everything she does helps me learn better. She is understanding about any questions or concerns I may have and also is ready to help me and meet with me anytime.

Pat Williams

Dr. Williams is truly an outstanding professor as the head of Murray State Horticulture in the School of Agriculture. He works six days a week almost every week from August to May and teaches several summer classes. Even with all his extra work, his lectures are lively, entertaining and informative. He quickly learns the names of his students and really gets to know them. He keeps us on our toes. Dr. Williams' lectures are of quality one would expect to find in one of the "mega" universities. We are very fortunate that he has come to Murray State. He truly is an outstanding professor.

Eric Umstead

Dr. Umstead is one of the most caring and considerate teachers that I have had throughout my years at Murray State. He truly loves his job and shows it by giving his all in the classroom. Not only is he a great teacher, but his personality is like none other.

Michael Bokeno

Of all the classes I have taken at Murray State University, I haven't learned more or been challenged to think more in any other class than

Dr. Bokeno's. The ideas he taught and the new ways of thinking have changed so much about the way I live professionally and personally.

David Eaton

I have had many great instructors at Murray State, but there is one who really has had an impact on my education and my personal life. Dr. Eaton was a

great teacher, and I now consider him a friend. Not only do I respect him as a teacher, but he is a man of God, which I think is awesome. Thanks for all the great memories in class along with all the talks in your office hour times. Keep up the great work, and thanks for everything.

Roger Weis

I believe that Dr. Roger Weis has truly made such a great impact on our community and in our university. He is always willing to take time out of his busy life to help any of his students and to help the people of our community. He is such a good professor, and his classes are very helpful in preparing us to be nonprofit leaders in the future. He has a huge heart, and I know that he truly cares about each and every one of his students. I think he is very deserving of this award.

Ranked 2nd in category of "Great Schools at Great Prices" among all public and private master's universities in the South.
—U.S. News & World Report 2005

Barbara Malinauskas

Mrs. Malinauskas always did a great job getting us excited and making sure that we learned. You can definitely tell that she cares. I enjoyed having her as a professor so much that I signed up for a class that I didn't even need so that I could learn from her again. She makes the classroom an enjoyable place to be.

Bassam Atieh

I would like to send this thanks to Dr. Atieh for his help while I was getting my undergraduate degree. I also want to thank him for the many letters of recommendation he has written for me in the past. He has also found scholarships for me to apply for. I am really looking forward to having Dr. Atieh as my graduate advisor and having him as a professor again. Thank you!

Sheryl Lidzy

Dr. Lidzy has been very helpful in furthering my education. Her classes have taught me to be more vocal in class and to have confidence in my thoughts. Her unusually hard tests have taught me to become better prepared for exams, something I will

use in the future. Other than that, she has always left her door open for discussion, whether it be personal problems, or just school in general.

students work on practical issues that we will soon face in the work environment after graduating and taking a permanent job.

Moreover, she has written countless recommendation letters for me in connection with scholarship opportunities. In all, she deserves recognition for all of her efforts, and I believe that she has helped raise the bar for all OSHA students by helping our program to become a top-notch safety program in the nation. Murray State University should be proud of Dr. Mason and know that they have a professor of the utmost integrity and personal character working for the University. Dr. Mason, keep doing what you've been doing. Thanks for everything you have done for me in times past.

Bommanna Loganathan

I have had the pleasure to do research with Dr. Loganathan in the Chemical Services Laboratory for over four years. His mentoring and training on proper lab techniques and safety issues while working in the lab prepared me for the job I currently have as an industrial chemist. Without such an opportunity that he gave me to do research with him I probably would have been unable to get such a job. Also, I had the privilege of taking three classes that he taught. Each

3. Good Practice Uses Active Learning Techniques

Learning is not a spectator sport. Students do not learn much just sitting in classes listening to teachers, memorizing prepackaged assignments, and spitting out answers. They must talk about what they are learning, write reflectively about it, relate it to past experiences, and apply it to their daily lives. They must make what they learn part of themselves.

- Arthur Chickering and Zelda Gamson, 1987

Her class has been

very beneficial for me this year.

Eileen Mason

I have had the privilege of taking numerous classes taught by Dr. Mason in the OSHA department. I must say that she is an excellent teacher and deserves to be recognized for going above and beyond the expectations set forth by this institution. Dr. Mason is always attentive to her students' needs, and by having experience in the safety field, she has revamped her class curriculum in an effort to concentrate

encourages the students. If I were to become a teacher, I only hope to be more like Melanie McCallon.

Fred Miller

Dr. Miller was extraordinarily helpful to his students. The close attention he provided to students in his online class was commendable. He made himself available. Dr. Miller is a big asset to the University.

Larry Guin

Dr. Guin is extraordinary. He takes time to help students and clarify the text. He is so approachable. He has the knowledge and ability to convey information to students in a comprehensible way.

Dennis Johnson

Mr. Johnson has been an influential instructor throughout my years at Murray State. I feel that he has made my collegiate career much more educational and enjoyable. Mr. Johnson is always willing to answer questions or just sit and listen to what his students have to say. His passion for music shows through in all that he does. Mr. Johnson is committed to helping his students be successful not only here at Murray State, but on a regional, national, and international level. His commitment to students does not end at graduation. As students embark on new endeavors, Mr. Johnson's support and confidence follow them. He keeps track of where his students are in life,

professionally and within society in general, and he genuinely shows interest in their well-being. Mr. Johnson does more than simply teach music; he inspires his students to be the best they can be and shows his support each step of the way.



Only Kentucky public ranked in the "Top Tier" among the nation's best universities in academic quality 14 consecutive years. —U.S. News & World Report 1992–2005

Suguru Nakamura

Having had Dr. Nakamura for Physiology, I can say he is deserving of a nomination. His teaching style was relaxed, and the style of teaching was varied several times to accommodate for all students. Mr. Nakamura met with me after my second exam. He encouraged me to study his slides and handouts more and assured me that he knew that I could excel in his class. From then on, I pushed myself and made an A on the next exam, a B on the fourth, and an A on the Final. He put a lot of time and effort into his teachings and his class. His hard work and dedication should not go unnoticed.

Mam-Yassin Sarr

Mam-Yassin Sarr is the cream of the crop. Her style of teaching and engaging her students is outstanding. She brings a very open, broad, and diverse perspective to the table and

wants her students to strive to do the same. Each class is different; I go into class not knowing what to expect. It's that "on your toes" mentality that makes Mam-Yassin a professor very deserving of this recognition.

David Durr

Dr. Durr is such an enthusiastic teacher. He knows his area (Finance) extremely well, and he knows how to explain it so

we understand. He also knows how to keep things fun and exciting by telling jokes, giving examples, and encouraging class participation. He can even make long-term bonds seem like the most fascinating subject in the world. One of the greatest things about his class is that we learn a practical way to apply the material covered in the textbook. He has given us assignments that were actually taken from the CFA and CFP exams. In fact, he has just sent in an application to create a program that would make Murray State certified by the CFA board of directors. Murray State is blessed to have Dr. Durr on our team. He is a great addition to our teaching staff, and I am confident that the reputation and prestige of MSU's Finance Department will reach new heights with his help.

Mary Lou Yeatts

Dr. Mary Lou Yeatts, Educational

children. She is willing to help you, in and out of class. I learn so much from her classes because she is so careful to explain everything to the fullest. You see that she is excited about what she does. She puts her heart into what she teaches. I only pray that I will be the great teacher that she is. And I thank her for making such a wonderful impression on me.

Kevin Binfield

Dr. Kevin Binfield is an extraordinary professor who genuinely wants his students to learn. He involves the entire class in discussion by setting up a forum-like discussion for the classroom as well as treating students as equals, as human beings on his level. He incorporates his life experiences to get us to think about the world outside what we know and are used to. He doesn't just teach course material, he gives valuable information on life and how to function in the real world.

Stephanie Carpenter

Dr. Carpenter has been a great inspiration in our lives. She has taught each of us several classes which we thoroughly enjoyed. Her blend of life experiences, humorous anecdotes, and historical information really bring the course full circle. She is always willing to go the extra

mile, whether it be for a current student or an advisee. She has continued to help us and touch our lives, even though we are not technically her students any longer. She is always available for references and letters of recommendation, regardless of her time constraints.

Patricia McCutchen

I enjoy Professor McCutchen's lectures. She takes the time to relate the materials so that her students don't just hear what she is saying, but actually listen to her.

Anthony Gannon

Dr. Gannon has amazed me with his knowledge and ability to lecture a class constructively. Each day, when I walk out of that classroom, I feel as if I have learned a great deal of

important and worthwhile information.

Pam Matlock

Not only was Mrs. Matlock a wonderful teacher, she was a great person. Mrs. Matlock made learning fun, and coming to class was a positive experience. I looked forward to Thursdays because I knew that I would leave in a great mood. She really cares about her students and sheds a positive light for the future of education. The knowledge that Mrs. Matlock has instilled in all of us will be beneficial to everyone's future. I feel that Mrs. Matlock should be recognized for the positive impact that she has had on everyone's future.

Robert Valentine

Mr. Valentine always manages to make class exciting and new. He keeps our attention and makes us look forward to attending class each week.

Melanie McCallon

Melanie is a great teacher who teaches students to love the differences presented in people. Melanie helps to make the class what it is because she realizes that there is the need for such diversity, as well as the acceptance for diversity. She is wonderful with the international students, and she also

one was challenging, but at the same time he cared whether or not students were learning and did all that he could to ensure that they were. So, through the research opportunities and mentoring, he provided me with the skills to achieve what all MSU graduates hope for—that is a job that they are confident in and enjoy.

Cami Duffy

I would like to take a moment to express my thanks to a wonderful teacher. Cami Duffy, you are a great teacher. On our first day of class you had us pick an adjective that started with the same letter as our first name. I picked "Wary" and you called me "Wonderful" instead. I know it probably wasn't much to you, but to me it was the world. When I am having a hard day and classes are getting me down, I remember that and I think of "Wonderful" more often than not now.

Celia Wall

Dr. Wall is an excellent professor. She is always willing to help a student. I know I can always go to her with questions about scheduling, classes, or my future. She isn't my advisor, but she helps me anyway. Even if she doesn't know the answer, she will make sure she finds out and gets back to you as soon as she can. I have nothing but respect for her.

Michael Bokeno

There is something that Dr. Bokeno does that makes this stuff stick in

your head when you leave the classroom. This aspect of a teacher is more important than being fun or exciting in the classroom because if I am paying to learn this information, I want to be taught and led in a direction that will help me retain what I learn when I leave the room. I have seen the effects of his class in my other classes.

Sheryl Lidzy

Dr. Lidzy recognizes and understands that all students learn differently and tries to adapt to every student's needs. She also keeps things interesting! Her class never consists of straight lecturing. She is always asking questions and doing activities to keep the class interested and participating. She is a smart and knowledgeable professor, but she is also very personable. She is a professor that you can always feel comfortable going to her office to talk about anything, even if it's not related to the classwork.

Barbara Malinauskas

Mrs. Malinauskas is an effective and helpful professor at Murray State University. I left her class with a much stronger comprehension about the field of communication, and this new-found knowledge motivated me to continue with Communication as

my major. She was an entertaining teacher who kept students engaged and interested.

Ann Landini

I would like to nominate Dr. Landini for this honor because of her earnest dedication to her students, as well as to the journalism profession. Dr. Landini has gone to great lengths to help me obtain my degree.

Gail Hendon

Mrs. Hendon is a wonderful teacher who is always willing to help the student. She has the ability to bring the best out of a student with her encouragement. Also, she is highly trained and knowledgeable in her subject matter.

Barbara Malinauskas

Professor Malinauskas has a true passion for teaching. She has been an inspiration and made my first semester at Murray State a great one!!!!

Crystal Coleman

You have made me a great speaker and prepared me for speaking when entering the

5. Good Practice Emphasizes Time on Task

Time plus energy equals learning. Learning to use one's time well is critical for students and professionals alike. Allocating realistic amounts of time means effective learning for students and effective teaching for faculty.

— Arthur Chickering and Zeldia Gamson, 1987

Highest ranked public master's university in category of "Great Schools at Great Prices."
—U.S. News & World Report 2005



workforce. You have made a difference in my education, and I just want to say thanks for all the hard work that you do for all of your students.

Steven Cox

Dr. Cox is a wonderful man with excellent communication skills. He has often taken the time to assist me in any way he can. I very much appreciate the fact that he takes the time to form a more personable relationship with his students beyond what other teachers might.

Mica Howe

Dr. Howe has been a tremendous help to me by challenging me to overcome my shyness and have confidence in my abilities.

Jo Robertson

I started out just like any other freshman, eager to learn but sidetracked with freedom. I sat out a semester with little intention of returning. I received a phone call from Dr. Robertson asking when I was planning on returning to school. I was convinced that I wasn't smart enough, nor did I have time to attend school with a new baby. Dr. Robertson kept telling me that I was smart, "You are one of my brightest students." She convinced me that there was nothing wrong with only attending school part-time and that there were so many ways of paying for school other than with loans. So, I enrolled for the fall taking only two

courses. And again Dr. Robertson checked up on me to see how things were going.

She said that if I made it through one semester why not try again for another semester. So I did.

And now here I am, two years later. I am a senior now with a few more classes left. I didn't think

college professors cared about students. I

know this one does. And it's not just me; many of my classmates tell me stories of how Dr. Robertson has helped them out. She truly cares about us and our families. She's more than a professor and more than an advisor—she is a mentor and a friend. I would like more than anything for her to be recognized as an outstanding teacher and to give her a humble thank you!

Sheryl Lidzy

I began my Organizational Communications major three semesters ago, and Dr. Lidzy was one of the first instructors I had in this department. From the moment I

4.

Good Practice Gives Prompt Feedback

Knowing what you know and don't know focuses your learning. In getting started, students need help in assessing their existing knowledge and competence. Then, in classes, students need frequent opportunities to perform and receive feedback on their performance. At various points during college, and at its end, students need chances to reflect on what they have learned, what they still need to know, and how they might assess themselves.

— Arthur Chickering and Zelda Gamson, 1987

entered her classroom I could tell she was different from other teachers I had in the past. She always makes class interesting and she truly displays an enthusiasm for not only what she teaches, but also for whether her students learn or not. She also has an amazing capacity to care about her students on a personal level. She is one of the best teachers I have ever had.

Daniel Wann

What sets Dr. Wann apart from other distinguished instructors is his true desire and passion for being in the classroom. What I find most impressive is his love for his job—a

job which he claims is no job at all. At times, he cannot believe he actually gets paid to be doing what he enjoys. Not only is he passionate about his position, but he also excels at it.

Not only are his lectures interesting and informative, but he also cares about his students. His leadership has motivated me to earn a Ph.D. in psychology so that I may influence other students as he has influenced me.

Cami Duffy

I am a non-traditional student who decided to go back to school after not having a college course for ten years. Having Mrs. Duffy as an instructor has been a blessing. She is very energetic and goes beyond normal means to make the class meaningful as well as educational. The skills taught will be used in and outside of business. She knew I was nervous about attending Murray State. She has taken the time to answer my nonstop and sometimes silly questions. She has helped me gain the courage and self-esteem to continue and finally finish my goal of graduating from college. She was the perfect instructor for someone to have if they need motivation to continue on.

Larry Guin

Dr. Guin was my professor in Regensburg this semester. We had to cram the classes into short semesters, but he managed to do it in

a very interesting and fun way. Dr. Guin was deeply concerned that the students learned and understood what was being taught in class and did everything he could to help students if they were having trouble. He is very intelligent and has a great knowledge about the subjects he teaches, but is able to communicate with the students on a level we could understand.

Tafiq Rashid

Dr. Rashid is a wonderful teacher for CIV 101, and this is quite simply because he makes things interesting. He makes history funny, he's innovative, and he also gets the teaching done that needs to be done. It is also very clear that he cares for his students and can talk to them. He's an awesome teacher and a wonderful man who deserves recognition!

Thayle Anderson

Faced with uncertainty and forced into change, I was unknown to Murray State's Department of English and Philosophy when Dr. Thayle Anderson first took time for me. His compassion built my self-esteem. His toughness polished my efforts. Among many kind faces, Dr. Anderson stands with fondness in my memory as a true friend.

David Roach

Dr. Roach was by far the coolest

professor I had for any class. For one reason or another, I was able to easily interpret what he was trying to teach, and therefore, passed his class. I like Dr. Roach as a professor. I think other students will like him as well.

Tony Brannon

Dr. Brannon has really made a difference. He is always willing to help any student who needs him. He has helped in every way possible. When I didn't think I was going to be able to attend college, he helped me to get scholarships and a job. He is a wonderful person.

Lori Harris

Dr. Harris is an amazing professor. Not only is she a great teacher in the classroom, but she is also an amazing help outside of the classroom. She is always willing to help or talk to students. She is such an encouragement! She is always willing to sacrifice her time for her students.

Jacqueline Hansen

Dr. Hansen is one of the best teachers I have ever had. She cares for each one of her students like they are her own

Ranked 38th in the nation among all public and private universities in "Best Collegiate Value."
—Kaplan's college guide 2004

