

Welcome!

Welcome to the 5th anniversary of *Scholars Week* at Murray State University. *Scholars Week* has become a very important event at Murray State University for our students and faculty. I have been extremely pleased to watch this program grow over the five-year period from approximately 200 students the first year to over 1000 students this year. This is truly a university-wide celebration of undergraduate and graduate research, scholarship, and creative activity.

I applaud the efforts of our Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Activities (URSA) office for implementing this program five years ago and then working with students and faculty to achieve greater and greater participation each year. During this week, students have the opportunity to showcase their scholarship efforts through oral presentations, poster sessions, exhibits, and performances.

I believe research, scholarship, and teaching go hand-in-hand to provide one of the very best learning environments for students. We know from current research in learning theory that students learn and retain knowledge better when they are fully engaged in the process. Through the efforts of our dedicated faculty, Murray State University is developing into one of Kentucky's institutions of choice for students who want to engage in the process of discovery and do significant research and creative work as undergraduates.

I encourage all of you to take advantage of the activities of this week and enjoy!

**Gary R. Brockway, Ph.D.
Provost, Murray State University**

