



EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

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MISCELLANEOUS EKU ACCOMPLISHMENTS OCTOBER 2005-JANUARY 2006

- Biology professor Dr. Ron Jones' new book, *Plant Life of Kentucky: An Illustrated Guide to the Vascular Flora*, is the first volume of its kind in the Commonwealth and, outside Florida, the first book of its kind in the southeastern U.S. in 30 years. The book has earned rave reviews – *Rhodora*, the journal of the New England Botanical Club – called it a “monumental and much-needed work” – and won for Jones the 2005 Biological Diversity Protection Award from the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission. The book, which retails for \$75, is available at most regional bookstores and at amazon.com.
- Frank X Walker, English professor and interim director of EKU's African/African-American Studies Program, is one of only nine nationally to receive a Lannan Literary Award/Fellowship and one of only three Kentuckians to have earned the honor in the Lannan Foundation's 17-year history, joining Wendell Berry and Chris Offutt. The award, accompanied by a \$75,000 literary prize, honors “both established and emerging writers whose work is of exceptional quality” and recognizes writers of “distinctive literary merit who demonstrate potential for continued outstanding work.”
- Art professor Dr. Gay Sweely received the Art Educator of the Year Award (higher education category) for 2005 from the Kentucky Art Education Association.
- Dr. Heather Adams-Blair, of the Department of Exercise and Sports Science, has been named the Outstanding Physical Educator for 2005 by the Kentucky Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.
- Dr. Gary Cordner, professor and former dean of the College of Justice & Safety, received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Kentucky Women's Law Enforcement Network and a Distinguished Service Award from the Lexington Division of Police.
- Dr. Michael Ballard, chair of our Department of Health Promotion and Administration, was selected to receive the 2006 Taylor Dodson Award, presented by the Southern District of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. The award recognizes a young professional who has contributed to the field, is of high moral character, and gained prominence in one of the following: teaching, administration, research, leadership in professional organizations, contributions to professional literature, or community service.
- Dr. Joe Allison, director of bands, represented EKU as an instructor and judge at the Japanese National Band and Drum Corps Championship this month. After Allison's last visit to the event, his experiences were featured in the *International Marching Institute Journal* and the *Drum Corps International Magazine*.



- In our Department of Psychology, Dr. Bob Brubaker has been selected as editor of the *Journal of Psychological Practice*, and Dr. Bob Mitchell was an invited participant at a special symposium at the New York Institute for the Humanities organized by author/director Jonathan Miller.
- Sue Cain, director of Transition and University Services, was elected president of the Kentucky Association for Developmental Education.
- In the College of Justice & Safety, the Large Animal Rescue Program that was so popular and garnered so much positive media attention a year ago will return this spring.
- Recent reports from the 2005 Business Forum and from the Governor's Work Group on Educator Quality have called for greater involvement of higher education faculty in school-based professional development. In keeping with our historic commitment to serve school districts in our service region, the College of Education, in collaboration with all our other academic colleges, is developing a compendium of professional development topics that faculty would be willing to present to our P-through-12 school partners.

