

Faculty And Staff Excellence



Model Citizens

When faculty and staff arrive in Salisbury to begin their tenures at the University, they quickly form ties within the community that they now call home. For two members of the SU family, that connection to the community inspires some pretty impressive results.

A Friend Of Education

Sherman Wood knows how to coach. The all-time winningest coach in SU football history, he led the team to an impressive season highlighted by wins at the Regents Cup game and the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Southeast Bowl. He also is a leader who mentors area students and inspires the athletes on his team to do the same. For his efforts he earned a Friend of Education

Award at the 2006 Wicomico County Teacher of the Year Banquet.

"Working with the community is not a privilege. It is my duty," Wood said. "It's my duty to provide information to young people in the community and for my staff and my students to provide mentorship, as well."

Wood and his athletes have inspired over 5,000 students in Wicomico County schools. This has come through such initiatives as leadership training at SU for dozens of students from elementary Title I schools, motivating students during TV Turnoff Week and participating in career fairs. Along the way, Wood and his squad have picked up some fans. During the football season, students from different elementary schools are in the stands at the SU football games to cheer the Sea Gulls on to victory.

SU's Point Of Light

If volunteerism begets volunteerism, Paula Morris, marketing faculty, could be the spokeswoman for the effort. In inspiring success in local school children, she has inspired scores of SU students to use their business savvy for the good of the community.

In 2001, she volunteered on a committee to improve the learning center at Salisbury's Salvation Army. Students attended the center to help bring up their grade point averages to qualify to play school sports. However, once their GPAs were at the appropriate level, their enrollment in



the program ended. Morris wanted to see these children continued to succeed, even after their required attendance in the learning center had ended. The solution: Kids of Honor, a program to promote continued success among Salisbury's public school students.

How does she find funds for this important project? She encourages the students in her promotion management classes to organize and promote fundraisers for the program. SU's students learn how to work the media and advertise an event while their education pays off big for the Kids of Honor and other charitable organizations.

For her efforts Morris was honored by the Daily Points of Light Foundation with its prestigious Daily Points of Light Award, one of the highest national volunteerism honors.



Where Are All The Great Professors?

Apparently, many of them are at SU according to the University System of Maryland. Three of the 15 top teaching awards from the state were given to SU faculty. Dr. Marie Cavallaro, Dr. Jerry Miller and Dr. E. Eugene Williams earned the highest faculty honor given by the USM: the Regents Award for Excellence.

The Regents recognized Cavallaro of the Art Department for public service, Miller of the Philosophy Department for teaching and

Williams of the Biological Sciences Department for mentoring. Although they were honored for varying aspects of their faculty commitments, each is a star among the students who clamor for their lectures and labs and to work with them on projects beyond the classroom.

Faculty are at the heart of the university experience. Great universities have great faculties. The Regents Awards affirm what our students already know: These faculty are great.



Sharma Earns Fulbright

For one SU professor, the prestigious Fulbright Scholar title means more than a coveted academic honor, it also means a trip home.

Originally from India, Dr. Andrew Sharma, associate professor in the Communication and Theatre Arts Department, is a Fulbright Fellow for 2006-07, a title reserved for a select few in the United States. During his fellowship, he will teach media courses at Guru Jambheshwar University in Hisar, India. An outstanding classroom instructor, an experienced television and radio producer, and a highly regarded expert on the global and personal impact of the electronic media, the fellowship allows Sharma to share his passion in his native land.

Sharma is not alone in the Fulbright honor, his colleague Dr. Michael Waters, English Department, is a Fulbright Fellow in Romania in spring 2007. Other SU Fulbright Scholars include:

- Dr. Tom Erskine, Thailand
- Dr. Gary Harrington, Poland
- Dr. Connie Richards, Spain
- Dr. James Welsh, Romania

