

UWF Annual Student Leadership and Service Awards Announced

April 7, 2006

PENSACOLA- The University of West Florida Division of Student Affairs has announced the winners of the 18th Annual Student Leadership and Service Awards. These awards are presented to outstanding student leaders, student organization advisors and registered student organizations. The 2005-2006 winners include:

Emerging Student Leader Awards: Natalia Lopez and Kimberly Stetser

- Lopez has been involved with the Student Government Association and Relay for Life. In addition, she has been on the Dean's List. Her other campus involvement includes the Hispanic Student Association, Big Brothers and Big Sisters and Big Argos Lil' Argos.
- Stetser has demonstrated a commitment to academic excellence and community involvement. She dedicated 128 hours of her time during the fall semester to volunteer work with the American Cancer Society, Ronald McDonald House, Habitat for Humanity and Adopt-a-Highway. She is also a member of the UWF Honors Council, Relay for Life, Student Ambassadors and Zeta Psi Eta sorority.

Outstanding Student Leader Awards: Christina Genualdi, Matthew Kruse and Chris Thompson

- Genualdi has accumulated more than 540 hours of community service, participating in activities such as Relay for Life, highway cleanups and beach cleanups. She is currently involved with the UWF Student Government Association, where she serves as vice president. In addition, she is a student ambassador, a member of the UWF Honors Program and a sister of the Alpha Gamma Delta Fraternity. She is a Pace Scholar, has been on the President's List and National Dean's List and was the recipient of the Emerging Student Leader Award in 2005.
- Kruse is involved with the Student Government Association, Relay for Life, Honors Council and Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity. As a member of the UWF Orientation Leader team, he was recognized as the Most Valuable Orientation Leader in the summer of 2005. He has dedicated many hours in volunteer services for the local community, as well internationally. He is a Florida Bright Future recipient and has been on the Dean's List.
- Thompson has been a dedicated finance committee member since his freshman year and is currently serving as the committee chair for the 2005-

2006 academic year. He is also a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity and Beta Alpha Psi. He is a recipient of the John C. Pace Scholar and Who's Who Among American Students.

Outstanding Graduate Student Leader Awards: Julie Kato and Marcus Todd Caraway

- Kato is a compassionate, dedicated leader who likes to see others grow and use the skills they have learned. She is currently the graduate assistant for sport clubs and marketing and employee recruitment in the Recreation and Sports Services Department. In addition, she is a member of the Student Government Finance Committee and Gamma Beta Phi.
- Caraway has extensive knowledge of UWF and has been an invaluable leader. He served as the University Commons and Student Activities administrative coordinator graduate assistant for the past two semesters and currently works with the Small Business Development Center as a graduate assistant and consultant to small business start-ups. Prior to these two positions, he served as an undergraduate filling a graduate assistant position as the operations and services graduate assistant for the University Commons and Student Activities.

Kenneth L. Curtis Award: Jacob Hesse

- Hesse transferred to UWF his sophomore year. He said he came in as a follower and listened to those who came before him. He then became involved in Sigma Alpha Mu, Student Government Association, Bacchus and Gamma and most recently started up a new student organization called the Real Estate Investment Masters.

Linda O. Dye Award: Angela Achen

- Achen is a motivated individual who strives to set the example for others. She is currently the president of the Campaign for Active Gender Equality. In addition, she was an Argo Aid Committee member, participated in the 2005 Women's Studies Conference and she has been an active member in the Gay Straight Alliance and Break the Silence.

Outstanding Faculty/Staff Advisor: Bob Kimball

- Bob Kimball goes above and beyond the requirements of his position in working with a demanding category of student organizations. He has been a dedicated advisor for more than 10 years and has been an inspiration to the many.

New or Reinstated Student Organization Award: Club Managers Association of America

- Club Managers Association of America was created to spark interest in the UWF student body and help students recognize different career options by providing the UWF student body with a nationally-affiliated professional

organization which is focused on bringing service and leadership together. As a group, they have participated in many volunteer events including Big Argos/Lil' Argos, the Rebuild Northwest Florida benefit and Sacred Heart Children's Hospital Mall Ball. Their future goals are to increase their membership base by 50 percent within the next academic year and to fundraise at least \$6,000 for those members who would like to attend the annual conference.

Student Organization Awards, University Service: Sigma Alpha Mu

- Sigma Alpha Mu has put a lot of time into improving life at both UWF and in the community. During the past year, they distinguished themselves with 1,450 community service hours contributing to Welcome Week, Homecoming, Alcohol Awareness Week, the Boy Scouts of America and in person assistance to victims of Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. Additionally, members are active in campus organizations such as the Student Government Association, Bacchus and Gamma and as orientation leaders and student ambassadors.

Student Organization Awards, Outstanding Program: Break Away – Alternative Spring Break (ASB)

- ASB helps students become active citizens within the school and their community. They achieve this by doing service projects throughout the year and a week-long service project in an off-campus location. Throughout the fall and spring semester students did various fundraisers to pay for their service trip. During the spring they traveled to and volunteered for the Florida Everglades National Park and Columbia South Carolina's Ronald McDonald House.

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