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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU BUSINESS COLLEGE PRESENTS STUDENT, DISTINGUISHED AWARDS

CHARLESTON, IL.--More than 80 awards were presented to students at the annual Eastern Illinois University Lumpkin College of Business awards ceremony held recently on the EIU campus.

In addition to the student awards, the ceremony was highlighted by naming the recipients of the Lumpkin College of Business Distinguished Professor Award, the Lumpkin College of Business Distinguished Alumnus Award and the Lumpkin College of Business Dean's Award.

The Distinguished Professor Award for the Lumpkin College of Business went to Dr. Robert E. Meier, professor of management and marketing at Eastern for 24 years.

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The Award was initiated in 1980 by a grant from Dr. John Willingham, a College of Business Distinguished Alumnus.

Selection is made from nominations received by an anonymous faculty committee on the basis of nominees' contributions in teaching, research and service.

Meier has given many hours of service to a multitude of department, college and professional association committees. One of his more visible contributions is as statistician for the EIU sports program.

He has also served as a consultant to many faculty and to numerous law firms in the Midwest and has been an expert witness in courts of law.

Meier has also authored a study which demonstrates the economic impact of EIU on Charleston and Mattoon.

He earned his bachelor's degree from Illinois State University in 1962; his master's degree from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale in 1964; and his doctorate from the University of Illinois in 1972.

The Distinguished Alumnus Award was presented to Roger Roberson, chairman of the Roberson Corporation, one of the largest Illinois-based trucking firms, headquartered in Farmer City.

The Award has been presented annually since 1970 to a graduate of the College of Business who has made significant accomplishments in business, industry, education or a profession.

A portrait of Roberson will be displayed in the College's "Hall of Fame" in Blair Hall.

The Roberson Corporation, which owns Cheyenne Express and Pre-Fab Transit, ranks as the 88th largest of 54,000 motor carriers nationwide. It operates about 1,000 tractors and 2,100 trailers and has 82 terminals nationwide.

A native of Farmer City and a resident of Champaign, Roberson is active in both state and national trucking organizations, including the American Trucking Association, Interstate Carriers Conference of A.T.A., Illinois State Trucking Association and the Illinois State Chamber of Commerce.

At Eastern, he serves on the Athletic Board, the Foundation Board, President's Club, Bertrand Holley Project and Lumpkin College of Business Advisory Board.

Daryl L. Wieland, a senior finance major, was presented the Lumpkin College of Business Dean's Award, the most prestigious award given to a graduating senior.

The Award was established by a fund created by the first dean of the EIU School of Business Dr. James Giffin and his wife June.

Wieland, who was nominated by the College's Administrative Council, was chosen for his outstanding leadership, scholarship, occupational experience, character, sense of purpose, growth and service to the University.

His work experience includes that of a manager/salesperson for a retail store, computer laboratory assistant and entrepreneur. He now heads his own corporation, chartered to produce and sell a consumer product he invented.

While at Eastern, he has been president of the Student Athletic Committee, treasurer of the Financial Management Association and is a member of two scholastic honorary societies. He has also been the recipient of four scholarships.