

10-22-1997

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Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "10/22/1997 - EIU To Recognize Distinguished Alumni.pdf" (1997). 1997. 383.
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97-292

October 22, 1997

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY TO RECOGNIZE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

CHARLESTON -- As part of this year's annual Homecoming festivities, five Eastern Illinois University alumni will be honored by the EIU Alumni Association for outstanding accomplishments since graduation.

Three alumni -- **Jerry Gilomen** ('66) of Laguna Beach, Calif.; **Robert G. Knollenberg** ('61) of Boulder, Colo.; and **Stephen K. Woodland** ('70, '81) of Oblong -- will each be honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Award. The recipient of this year's Alumni Service Award is **Lou Hencken** ('66, '67) of Charleston, and the Outstanding Young Alumnus for 1997 is **Michael R. Gagliardo** ('93) of Rainbow City, Ala.

Gilomen, the president of Diversified Restaurant Corp., has made significant contributions to the business world as a leader and entrepreneur. He has also distinguished himself in the area of service by helping create the Ronald McDonald House program with McDonald's founder, Ray Kroc. Today, there are more than 150 Ronald McDonald Houses throughout the world providing support to families of children with life-threatening diseases.

In 1993, Gilomen was named by the Salt Lake City Olympic Organizing Committee to be a members of its 10-person presentation team. Other members of that group include U.S. Senators

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Orrin Hatch and Jake Garn, the governor of Utah, the mayor of Salt Lake City, and former Olympic gold medalist Stein Ericksen. Their presentation was successful and the Winter Olympics will go to Salt Lake City in 2002. Gilomen continues his support for those Olympic games through active involvement in the development of facilities for the luge and bobsled events.

Gilomen and his identical twin brother, Tom, were co-recipients of the 1996 Distinguished Alumni Award from the Lumpkin College of Business and Applied Sciences which recognizes graduates for significant leadership positions within their communities, professions, organizations or industries. Also for their contributions to the Lumpkin School of Business, the university named Lumpkin Hall 017 as Gilomen Auditorium.

Knollenberg, founder of Particle Measuring Systems, Inc., has experienced a distinguished and varied career as a scientist, educator and businessman. He earned his master of science and doctorate degrees in atmospheric science at the University of Wisconsin in 1964 and 1967, respectively. Particle Measuring Systems, Inc., was founded in 1972 and, in 1994, the company spun off its electro-optics division, forming Research Electro-Optics, Inc., where Knollenberg currently serves as CEO and chairman of the board.

He has pioneered development of a variety of particle-sizing techniques with applications to a host of scientific disciplines ranging from environmental science to space flight. He is best known for the design of light scattering and particle-size spectrometers for use on aircraft, "in situ" light scattering and extinction particle-size spectrometers for use in liquid contamination measurements. He is also the inventor of laser resonant cavity techniques for sub-micron aerosol measurements.

Among the many awards and honors Knollenberg has received are the 1977 Losey Atmospheric Sciences Award, the 1978 NASA Medal for Exceptional Scientific Achievement, the 1986 and 1993 Maurice Simpson Technical Editors' Awards, the Espirit Entrepreneur of Distinction 1993 Award and the 1994 Technology Advancement Award.

A high school math teacher in Oblong, **Woodland** has earned the respect of his community, his peers throughout the state, and, possibly, more importantly, his students. As coach of the math team at Oblong High School, his record of achievement is unequalled in the state. Since 1986, his teams have won three state championships and never finished lower than third overall.

His accomplishments can also be measured by the successes of his former students, a number of whom used his nomination for this award as a forum to thank the individual they credit for their own accomplishments in life. Among the many was an aeronautical engineer for McDonnell Douglas who currently has more than 20 patents pending with the United States government and who credited Woodland with instilling in his students the desire to learn.

In addition to his teaching, Woodland has also coached baseball, basketball and football at Oblong. In 1986, he was a finalist for the "Those Who Excel Award," and, in 1997, was honored as "Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year." His wife, Diana, received her bachelor's degree from Eastern, and one of the couple's two children is currently an Eastern sophomore, majoring in biological sciences.

Hencken, who has served as Eastern's vice president for student affairs since 1992, began his professional career at EIU while serving as residence hall director in Douglas Hall, and was the first residence hall director in Stevenson Tower. He became assistant director of housing in 1970,

associate director in 1971, director of housing in 1975, associate vice president for student affairs in 1989, and, in 1992, was appointed vice president for student affairs, the position he currently holds.

Hencken is also a member of the board of directors of the Charleston Area Chamber of Commerce, Credit Union 1, the Community Health Plan of Sarah Bush Lincoln, and is president of the Board of Directors of the Sarah Bush Lincoln Health System. In 1989, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the Great Lakes Association of College and University Housing Officers; in 1990, he was awarded the Eastern Illinois University Service Award for Administration and the Dean Ralph Ross Award presented by Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

In addition to his work in community service, Hencken has also been a high school and college football official. In 1995, he received the Herman Rohrig Award for college football officiating. He refereed five NCAA play-off football games, culminating in 1989 with the NCAA Division III national championship football game. His wife, Mary Kay, is also a graduate of Eastern and teaches at Charleston High School.

Gagliardo currently serves as the music director of the Etowah Youth Orchestras in Gadsden, Ala. Since his appointment in 1995, he has led the orchestras to national recognition, including receipt of the 1996 American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) Award for Programming of Contemporary Music in the category of youth orchestras.

The orchestras have performed across the country, including the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York City and for a joint session of the Alabama State Legislature. The Etowah Youth Symphony has commissioned and performed the world premieres of three works and

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ALUM AWARDS

recently released a compact disc.

Gagliardo received his bachelor's of music degree from Eastern and graduated from the university's Honors Programs cum laude. He later received his masters degree in orchestral conducting from Ball State University. He is a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, Kappa Delta Pi and the Mortar Board Honor Society.

Alumni award recipients are scheduled to ride in Eastern's Homecoming parade at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, and will be the guests of honor at a dinner later that evening.