

## In this issue:

- Certified Distance Educator 2015 Award Recipients
- 2015 Master Online Course Recognition Award Recipients Announced
- Online Course Evaluations Completion Rate Update
- Update on SARA
- Online Test Proctoring Center
- MoDLA Survey Request

## Certified Distance Educator 2015 Award Recipients

In order to recognize excellence in online and distance teaching and learning, Missouri State Online began the Certified Distance Educator Award in 2015. The following faculty have received recognition for the first year of the award:



*Congratulations to the following CDE Award winners:*

- David Johnson, Political Science
- David White, Business, West Plains Campus
- Jennifer Pursley, Math
- John Bourhis, Communication
- Julie Baldwin, Criminology
- Kimberly Van Ornum, Math
- Marilyn Odneal, Agriculture
- Ethan Amidon, Criminology
- Shari Scott, Counseling Leadership and Special Education
- Ivy Yarckow-Brown, Criminology
- Michael Suttmoeller, Criminology
- Lacey Geiger, Outreach
- Monika Feeney, Biomedical Sciences
- Patti Blanton, Math
- Angela Zhou, Biomedical Sciences
- Rose Utley, Nursing
- Jokima Hiller, Hospitality and Restaurant Administration

Those who have completed at least three distance education development activities in the past year are eligible to submit an application by going to the following website: <http://outreach.missouristate.edu/online/cdeaward.htm>

## 2015 Master Online Course Recognition Award Recipients Announced



Professor Eric Nelson was selected as the recipient of this year's Master Online Course Recognition Award. Missouri State Online selects the annual winner based upon a best practices rubric in the design and delivery of distance education course material. Dr. Nelson's course, HST 397 Europe: Paleolithic to 1650 was judged best in all categories from a highly competitive pool of nominees. This is Dr. Nelson's second Master Online Course Recognition Award. He was the recipient of the first award in 2010.

Professor Vicki Schmitt has also received recognition for her online course SFR 486 Management and Assessment in the Middle and Secondary Classroom. The Master Online Course Recognition Award selection panel recognized her course as best in the category of Course Design, Organization and Instructional Materials.

Both recipients will be honored for their achievement during the spring All-Faculty Recognition Reception.

Missouri State Online congratulates both Drs. Nelson and Schmitt and their respective departments!



**Dr. Eric Nelson**



**Dr. Vicki Schmitt**

## Online Course Evaluations Completion Rate Update

Utilization of a new pop-box reminder in Blackboard has led to dramatic increases in the student response rate in our online course evaluations. Rates have jumped from the upper thirty and lower forty percentile range, to 74.73% for the full 2015 fall semester. Fall 2015 first and second block courses rose from the lower thirty percentiles to 66.2% and 66.87% respectively. The first block spring 2016 courses have were completed at a rate of 70.91%.

## Update on SARA

At the start of 2016 36 states have become members of SARA (State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements). 613 participating institutions of higher education now allow students in each state to attend online courses while residing in other member states. Growth is continuing with new states currently passing legislation to join in SARA in 2016. Missouri State University has been a member since May 2015.

## Online Test Proctoring Center

Beginning this spring semester 2016, the Missouri State Test Proctoring Center has provided additional evening hours for proctoring in collaboration with the Testing Center in the Meyer Library, Lower Level, room 010. The library testing center will be open on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4:30pm until 7pm. Operating hours for the regular Online Test Proctoring Center in Strong Hall remain unchanged. Please view the complete schedule by going to this link:

<http://outreach.missouristate.edu/online/Proctored-Exam-Procedures-Springfield-Campus.htm>



## MoDLA Survey Request



Please provide input to the Missouri Distance Learning Association's strategic planning process by completing this important survey regarding current practices and needs in distance education. The survey should take 15 minutes or less. Follow the link below to participate:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1X9FSR14Uq98QSN0E9PyzGS4DGtvnylnLLnedQuBTydl/viewform>

## Contact Us

For questions related to the newsletter, contact Missouri State Online:

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