



Faculty Appreciation

The University of Kentucky Alumni Association has long appreciated the value of the UK faculty. This year marks the 44th time that the association has presented its Great Teacher Award. This award is the university's oldest, continuous recognition of faculty excellence in the classroom and it brings together alumni and students in the nomination and selection process of the honorees. I can't think of a better combination than that!

I can tell you from firsthand experience that this is a cherished honor. Having received the award myself in 1982, it is made even more special by the fact that the association never forgets those who received the award after the honorarium clears the bank and the plaque is engraved. Previous recipients are invited every year to the event that recognizes the new honorees.

As president now, this event is an even more joyful experience as I relish the success represented by the honored faculty, to hear what our students have to say about the education and mentoring that is taking place in their classrooms at UK, and to hear the professors themselves talk about the quality of their students and the quality of their professorial experience at UK.

This year's event was bigger and better than ever with the dinner at Spindletop Hall. Let me applaud UK alumni for this dedication to the teaching mission of the university, and for the other support you lend to student recruitment, scholarships and the Big Blue spirit worldwide.

President Lee T. Todd Jr.

The 2005 Great Teacher Award recipients are:

- * Suketu P. Bhavsar, Arts and Sciences
- * Ellen Furlough, Arts and Sciences
- * Eugene R. Gaetke, Law
- * Richard Labunski, Communications and Information Studies
- * Thomas A. McConnell, Dentistry
- * Bruce A. Swetnam, Design