



Student Government Resolution 116.027

A Resolution Honoring the Educator and Research Mentor of the Year

Sponsored by Kyra Cooper, Academic Affairs Chair; Brett Combs, Remy McClain, and Sarah Holtmeyer, Voting Senators

WHEREAS,

- The Student Government is the official governing body of the Student Association and exists to represent the present and long-term best interest of the Student Association in the formulation of University policy and in the fulfillment of the University mission; and
- In 1988, a student-led initiative began the practice of honoring Truman faculty through selecting an Educator of the Year; and
- In addition to Educator of the Year, Truman students further seek to honor the efforts of Research Mentors in the lives of students; and
- In February of 2016, the Academic Affairs committee began collecting nominations from students for Educator of the Year and Research Mentor of the Year; and
- The Academic Affairs committee received over 90 nominations for these awards; and
- The Academic Affairs committee then selected 30 semi-finalists for Educator of the Year and 10 semi-finalists for Research Mentor of the Year; and
- The semi-finalists submitted essays that were reviewed by the committee; and
- From the essays received, the Academic Affairs committee selected seven Educator of the Year finalists and six Research Mentor of the Year finalists; and
- In addition to a representative from the McNair program and the Pershing Society, the Academic Affairs committee completed 7 classroom observations for Educator of the Year and six interviews for Research Mentor of the Year; and
- After a long deliberation process, the committee to select an Educator and Research Mentor of the Year reached a majority vote and decided the winning faculty member; and
- Dr. Vayujeet Gokhale was selected as the Research Mentor of the Year; and
- Professor Alex Tetlak was selected as the Educator of the Year.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

- That the Student Government thanks the efforts of all faculty and educators involved in the process for their time and commitment to their students; and
- Thanks Robert Renteria and Rosalie Swingle for representing the McNair program and the Pershing society, respectively; and

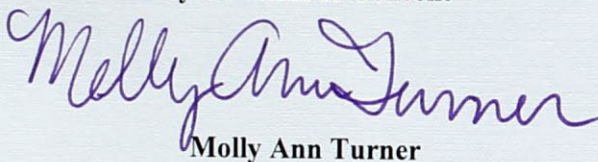
- Confirms that the Educator and Research Mentor of the Year was selected by the official committee, and was recognized at the Accolades of Academics banquet on the 18th of April, 2016; and
- Congratulates Dr. Vayujeet Gokhale and Professor Alex Tetlak for their designation as Research Mentor of the Year and Educator of the Year, respectively; and
- Encourages the Truman State University administration to consider Dr. Gokhale and Professor Tetlak for the Governor's Teaching Award.

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT OF TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY DIRECTS THAT,

- Additional copies of this resolution are disseminated to each current member of the Truman State University Board of Governors; President, Troy Paino; Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost, Susan Thomas; Vice President of Student Affairs, Lou Ann Gilchrist; Executive Secretary for Academic Affairs, Kathleen Powell; Truman Media Network; University Archives; Administrative Assistant to the Dean of Social and Cultural Studies, Peggy Clark; Office of Student Research, Chad Montgomery; Dean of the School of Science & Mathematics, Jonathan Gering; Chair of Physics, Samuel Ling; Dean of the School of Arts & Letters, James O'Donnell; Chair of Classical and Modern Languages, Lucy Lee; Research Mentor of the Year for 2016, Dr. Vayujeet Gokhale; Educator of the Year for 2016, Professor Alex Tetlak.

Passed April 24, 2016

By Unanimous Consent



Molly Ann Turner

President of the Student Association