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Office of University
Communications

May 29, 2019

University Awards Excellence in Teaching, Staff Member of the Year and Emeriti Status

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.—Gardner-Webb honored outstanding faculty and staff members recently during the University’s annual “Apples and Accolades” program.

The 2019 Excellence in Teaching Award was presented to Dr. Bruce Moser, assistant professor of music. A former winner of the Faculty’s Rising Star Award, Moser is known for his exceptional skill in the classroom and his service to the University through multiple committees and as a champion of undergraduate research.

“While he comes highly recommended by his colleagues, the most striking recommendations are those that come from his students,” noted Dr. Ben Leslie, GWU interim president. “One of his students said, ‘You are easily the best professor I have ever had and I wish all my professors were as fun and engaging and exciting as you are. This is one class that I always look forward to because you are so passionate about what you teach that it makes me excited to learn from you. Thank you for being such a great professor.’”

Moser teaches piano, piano pedagogy and literature, music history and music theory. He received his bachelor’s degree from Stetson University, his master’s from New England Conservatory of Music and his doctorate from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Staff Member of the Year Awards were presented to Donna Filer, database administrator, and Keith Thomas, multimedia support technician. Filer was honored for her dedication to customer service and ability to communicate well. Thomas was recognized as a troubleshooter and problem solver, who has a can-do attitude and remains calm under pressure.



Bruce Moser, 2019 Excellence
in Teaching Award

Five GWU faculty and staff members were recognized upon their retirement from the University, and select individuals received emeriti status. Emeriti rank at Gardner-Webb is reserved for those who have retired from full-time teaching at the University with at least 15 years of service as a member of the faculty. The position is recommended by faculty through an academic department, the Administrative Advisory Committee and the University administration. The Board of Trustees then appoints the retired faculty member to emeriti status.

The 2019 retirees and Emeriti status recipients included:

- Nancy Bottoms, 1993-2019, professor emerita of English and art
- Sue Camp, 1976-2018, professor emerita of business administration
- Donna Ellington, 1988-2019, professor emerita of history
- Gerald Keown, 1996-2019, professor emeritus of biblical studies
- Glenn Bottoms, 1983-2018, professor emeritus of economics and management
- Sara McNeely, 2010-2019, instructor of health, sport and physical education

Located in the North Carolina foothills, Gardner-Webb University is a private, Christian, liberal arts university that prepares students to become critical thinkers, effective leaders and compassionate servants in the global community. Emphasizing a strong student-centered experience and rigorous academics, Gardner-Webb ignites learning and service opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students. Ignite your future at Gardner-Webb.edu.



Donna Filer, Female Staff
Member of the Year



Donna Ellington, professor
emerita of history



Glenn Bottoms, professor
emeritus of economics and
management



Gerald Keown, professor
emeritus of biblical studies



Keith Thomas, Male Staff
Member of the Year



Sue Camp, professor emerita of
business administration



Nancy Bottoms, professor emerita of English and art