



August 26, 2008

## NKU honors trio

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**HIGHLAND HEIGHTS** - Three Northern Kentucky University educators have won awards for outstanding performance.

Catherine Metzger, who teaches in the College of Education & Human Services, received the Outstanding Part-Time Faculty Excellence in Instruction Award.

Matthew Albritton, of the fine arts department, won the Michael C.C. and Susan S. Adams Outstanding Non-Tenure Track Faculty Member.

Tom Cate was named the 2008 Frank Sinton Milburn Outstanding Professor.

"It's a way for us to recognize faculty excellence in a very intentional and public way," said J. Patrick Moynahan, NKU vice provost. "A lot of faculty members put in a lot of time that nobody sees and this is a way to call attention to it."

Metzger is also a technology specialist at the Finneytown Local School District, and was praised for her work with educational technologies.

Albritton has helped his department transition from traditional to digital photography.

"He is always willing to take on new assignments, learn what is on the horizon in technology," said Barbara Houghton, an arts professor.

Albritton said he wants students to connect to the world through their lens.

"I want students to understand that it is their relationship to the world that is important, not how many frames per second their camera can shoot or how many megapixels it might have. Photography is a means of discovery," Albritton said.

Cate, a faculty member since 1975, has served as faculty senator, chairman of the Department of Economics & Finance and director of the master's in business administration program.

"Because of his insatiable appetite for reading and quest for knowledge, his classes are greatly enriched," Nancy Lang said in a letter supporting Cate. "He has a wonderful ability to spark the intellectual curiosity of students. His classes are always known for their reading list of books and articles that cause students to broaden any narrow definition they may have of economics."

Moynahan said the nomination and award selection is a thorough process.

"They're nominated by all the departments and academic units, by another faculty member, department chair, a dean, and a couple cases students nominate a faculty member," Moynahan said. "Once they're nominated, there is a process they go through to submit materials.

"They submit letters from department chairs, confirm their eligible, submit a vita. They submit an instructor evaluation sheet for those that teach and whatever other evidence of excellence that

they choose to submit. We'll typically get large binders supporting their nomination."

Recipients are also given cash awards of \$500 to \$1,000.

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