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Professor awarded for NKU dedication

BY HOWARD MCEWEN | ENQUIRER CONTRIBUTOR

Northern Kentucky University's Dr. Cady Short-Thompson, associate professor of speech communication, was named this month the school's 2007 Frank Sinton Milburn Outstanding Professor.

Short-Thompson said the award is something she's worked for since joining NKU in 1996.

"When I first arrived on campus, one of my communications colleagues, Dr. Russ Proctor, received this award," Short-Thompson said. "From that moment, I viewed his successful career and award as a possibility for my own future."

Dr. Steve Weiss, professor of communication and NKU faculty regent, wrote a letter supporting Short-Thompson for the award. He wrote:

"First you have a virtuoso teacher who consistently is identified as one of the best classroom instructors here (or anywhere). Second, you have an individual who does compelling, relevant and contemporary research that engages students, her colleagues and the greater community of scholars and educators. Third, you have a true educational leader who develops, maintains and adds distinctiveness to programs and initiatives she advances."

Short-Thompson has consistently received high evaluations from students. In one semester, she was cited by 18 students as having the greatest impact on their academic and personal development.

She teaches two graduate-level classes and is director of NKU's masters program in communication.

"(Students) seem to appreciate how I invest myself in their lives - I worry about them," said Short-Thompson. "I think about their futures. I am candid but caring in my feedback because I want them to improve and meet their potential and my expectations."

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