

2005 Gaff Award Presented to Edward Katz, UNC-Asheville

Edward J. Katz, Associate Vice Chancellor for University Programs at the University of North Carolina at Asheville, received the Jerry G. Gaff Faculty Award at AGLS's annual conference in Fairfax, Virginia.

Professor Katz, Professor of Literature and Language, was honored for his faculty leadership teaching in and then leading a major review of his campus' General Education Program. He continues that leadership currently, serving to facilitate the implementation of a new Integrative Liberal Studies Program.

The winner of three teaching awards, Professor Katz was lauded by his recommenders for his "tireless work and devotion" to the review process and the new general education program. Called his campus' "most significant leader today" in general and liberal education, Professor Katz is cited as "the *creative force* behind the [review] process, as *dedicated to an inclusive process* throughout the four years of . . . deliberation," and as a *skilled consensus-builder* who encouraged dialogue and orchestrated negotiations and compromises to bring the project to completion."

Besides publishing and presenting on the nature of the reform process, Professor Katz is also an active grant writer seeking to fund and support his campus' programs.

The Jerry G. Gaff Faculty Award is given annually to those who have demonstrated leadership on his/her campus in the area of general and liberal education, who have shown evidence of outstanding teaching in general and liberal education courses, and who have a record of achievement in curriculum development, innovation, or implementation in general and liberal education on his/her campus.

Past awards have been given to Mary Dickson (Broome Community College), Fred Albertson (University of Memphis), Gail Schiffer (Kennesaw State University), Anthony Edmonds (Ball State University), and John Habel (Western Carolina University).

The award is named for Jerry Gaff, Senior Scholar for the American Association of Colleges and Universities, respected advocate for general and liberal education, and inaugural winner of AGLS's Joseph Katz Award for Outstanding Leadership in General Education.