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For Immediate Release

Campbellsville University honors 169 teachers from 60 school districts in Excellence in Teaching Ceremony

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CAMPBELLSVILLE, Ky. – At the annual 32nd Excellence in Teaching Ceremony, Campbellsville University recognized 169 teachers from 60 school districts. A total of 3,749 teachers have been recognized for their teaching excellence throughout the years.

Kentucky State Senator Max Wise shared his appreciation for the teachers across the commonwealth during the program held at Campbellsville University.

“The ability to mentor students, the ability to watch students walk across that graduation stage, and just the ability to play a role in students’ lives is so meaningful that each of you teachers do every day in so many aspects,” Wise said.

Wise spoke about how as an educator you are along for so many experiences of your students’ lives.

“Their progression is influenced by you every day as an educator -- to help them grow, to help them learn and to mature,” Wise said.

As a parent of four, Wise has become aware of the amount of time teachers spend with their students and the amount of time that goes into planning to provide for their classrooms.

“Your working hours do not start or end by the ring of a bell -- it does not start by a calendar date. I thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart for the time and the effort that you put into your job to help your students succeed,” Wise said.

Dr. Donna Hedgepath, provost and vice president for academic affairs, and Dr. Beverly Ennis, dean of the School of Education, presented the certificates to the teachers before a luncheon in Winters Dining Hall.

Hedgepath, who has taught in the public school system, told the teachers, “We celebrate you today. We applaud the best of the best of teachers today.”

Ennis said “Teaching is the profession that creates all others” is a motto hanging in Campbellsville University’s School of Education building.

She said Campbellsville University is the most diverse private college in Kentucky and is in the top five lowest debt colleges in the southern region of the United States.

Dr. Chuck Hamilton, associate professor of education, introduced Max Wise and read the names of the honorees.

Kelli Evans, a Campbellsville University student, sang, and Corey Bonds, assistant director of bands and instructor in music, accompanied her on piano.

Dr. Shane Garrison, vice president for enrollment services, gave the benediction before the luncheon.

The Excellence in Teaching Awards program is in partnership with Lexington’s CBS-affiliate, WKYT-TV.

Awards recipients include:

Harlan County – Brent Roark, superintendent; Faith Clem, Black Mountain Elementary School; Andy Howard, Green Hills Elementary School; and Alexandra Nau, Harlan County High

School.



Teachers honored for the Harlan County School System were, second from left: Faith Clem, Andy Howard and Alexandra Nau. Presenting the awards were Dr. Donna Hedgepath, far left, provost and vice president for academic affairs, and Dr. Beverly Ennis, dean of the School of Education. (Campbellsville University Photo by Drew Tucker)

Clem teaches first grade at Black Mountain Elementary School, where she has taught since 1991. She graduated in 1984 from Evarts High School. In 1989, she obtained a bachelor of arts degree from Cumberland College. Clem attended Union College to receive her master of arts degree in 1994.

She is married to Butch Clem, and they have two children, Katherine and Ben. She is the daughter of Doris McCallister from Evarts, Ky.

Howard teaches social studies at Green Hills Elementary School, where he has been teaching since 2000. He graduated from James A. Cawood High School in 1996. He attended Union College, where he obtained his bachelor's and master's degrees in 2000 and 2005, respectively.

Howard is married to Angela Howard; they have three children, Emily, Emma and Elizabeth Howard. His parents are Lisa Lowery of Flat Lick, Ky. and James Howard of Big Laurel, Ky.

Nau is an English teacher at Harlan County High School, where she has been teaching since 2015. She graduated in 2011 from Manheim Township High School in Lancaster, Pa. She attended University of Delaware, where she obtained her Bachelor of Science in Human Services in 2015.

Nau is the daughter of Susan and Bradley Nau from Lancaster, Pa.

Campbellsville University is a widely-acclaimed Kentucky-based Christian university with more than 10,000 students offering over 90 programs of study including 20 master's degrees, six postgraduate areas and seven pre-professional programs. The university has off-campus centers in Kentucky cities Louisville, Harrodsburg, Somerset and Hodgenville with instructional sites in Elizabethtown, Owensboro, Summersville and Liberty, all in Kentucky, and one in Costa Mesa and the Silicon Valley in California, and a full complement of online programs. The website for complete information is campbellsville.edu.