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Ferris Professor Hastings-Bishop receives MCC's top award

BIG RAPIDS—Susan Hastings-Bishop, professor of recreation leadership and management at Ferris State University, has been chosen to receive the Michigan Campus Compact's (MCC) Faculty/Staff Community Service-Learning Award. This prestigious annual award is the highest the MCC bestows on faculty and staff in the state of Michigan.

Dr. Hastings-Bishop will be formally honored during an evening awards reception on Feb. 17 at Adrian College as part of the 9th Annual Institute on Service-Learning titled "Deepening the Commitment to Student Engagement through Quality Teaching."

A member of the Ferris faculty since 1988, Hastings-Bishop was designated by her peers as the faculty/staff person on campus who made the most outstanding contributions in the area of community service-learning. The award recognizes the influence on or engagement of students to be involved in community service or service-learning through modeling, instruction, and/or special projects.

"Dr. Hastings-Bishop is a model for students to follow as a leader in academic service-learning," said Lynn Wolfbrandt of the MCC. "She has extensive personal experience in community service with the Girl Scouts, and other youth organizations such as the Crossroads for Youth and the City of Big Rapids. She includes academic service-learning projects as class requirements in courses in the Recreation Leadership and Management program and serves as a mentor to students by engaging them in community service and civic responsibility."

Hastings-Bishop has served as the advisor for two MCC Grants: Project HOPE in 2002-2003, which resulted in the construction of a habitat garden, and currently for Healthy Youth on Track, a program which advises girls 11-17 on health and fitness issues.

She received her baccalaureate degree in physical education from State University of New York at Brockport, her master's in recreation from the University of Northern Colorado and her doctorate in recreation and resources development from Texas A&M University.

The MCC is a state-level non-profit organization that promotes the education and commitment of Michigan college students to be civically engaged citizens, through creating and expanding academic, co-curricular and campus-wide opportunities for community service, service-learning and civic engagement.