



News Release

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John Piczak Selected 2005 Professor of the Year

KEUKA PARK, N.Y.—John Piczak, a member of the Keuka College faculty since 1971, is the College's 2005 Professor of the Year.

Piczak, professor of political science, was recognized and spoke at the recent academic convocation. He focused his speech on individual respect and human dignity, "two fundamental values that should guide the behavior and actions of humankind.

"While you are beginning your educational journey; while you are gaining knowledge in the sciences, math, literature, humanities, political science, and history; while you are striving to become a professional, to begin a career, to make money, to pay off your student debt," said Piczak, "you must always remember that as an individual, as a professional, as a citizen, your actions, deeds, and words must always promote these values. If you do not, if you violate them, you will have failed yourself, your friends, and your nation."

He pointed to his wife, Judy, and friends and colleagues such as Jackie Robinson, Mike Rogoff, Jeff Krans, Herb Ulrich, Sander Diamond, Jose Torre, Regi Teasley, Tom Tremer, and Drew Arnold as people who have "dedicated themselves to the fundamental values of individual respect and human dignity."

Piczak, who earned a Ph.D. from SUNY Albany and a bachelor's degree from SUNY Geneseo, began his teaching career at Vassar College and joined the Keuka College faculty in 1971.

In addition to teaching, he directs the Washington Semester Program, run in conjunction with SUNY Brockport. Keuka students who participate receive up to 16 academic credits and choose to work in Congressional offices, executive agencies, the Supreme Court, political party organizations, or interest groups.

"John has infused into students a passion for following the events that are shaping their lives," said Diamond, professor of history. "This deep commitment to his profession and politics has made him an exceptional teacher."

[For more information see story in KC Currents...](#)

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