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SIU earns recognition for service and outreach

by Tom Woolf

CARBONDALE, Ill. -- Southern Illinois University Carbondale today (Jan. 7) earned significant national recognition for its commitment to service and outreach.

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching awarded SIU its prestigious 2015 Community Engagement Classification. SIU is now one of just 361 colleges and universities --among the more than 4,000 nationwide -- to earn the distinction, which is valid for 10 years.

The foundation invited colleges and universities with an institutional focus on community engagement to apply for the classification, first offered in 2006 as part of an extensive restructuring of the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. SIU, for example, is classified as a "service-oriented" institution. In this case, institutions voluntarily submitted materials to the foundation to demonstrate their commitment with the community.

A team of advisers developed a "documentation" to assess the nature of the community engagement.

James S. Allen, associate provost for academic affairs, developed SIU's 48-page application over the course of several months. The Center for Service-Learning and Volunteerism



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Carnegie Selects Colleges and Universities for 2015 Community Engagement Classification

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The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching has selected 240 U.S. colleges and universities to receive its 2015 Community Engagement Classification. Of this number, 83 institutions are receiving the classification for the first time, while 157 are now re-classified, after being classified originally in 2006 or 2008. These 240 institutions join the 121 institutions that earned the classification during the 2010 selection process. The Foundation congratulates all 361 campuses on gaining this important designation.

Colleges and universities with an institutional focus on community engagement were invited to apply for the classification, first offered in 2006 as part of an extensive restructuring of The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. Unlike the Foundation's other classifications that rely on national data, this is an "elective"

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