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Hopper Named LCC Distinguished Adjunct Faculty

Parsons, KS- Labette Community College recently announced that Sharla Hopper, of Parsons was named the 2015 Adjunct Faculty of the Year Award Recipient. Hopper is an adjunct instructor and teaches education courses.

The Distinguished Adjunct Faculty Award at LCC was developed on the premise that faculty members who have performed in an exemplary manner should be publicly recognized and rewarded. The criteria areas for the award are: teaching effectiveness, college service, involvement with students, and community engagement. All adjunct faculty who have completed at least four years of teaching service to LCC are eligible for the award and there is a three-year interim before a recipient is eligible to be selected for the award again. Faculty may be nominated by full-time employees, adjunct faculty, and students.

In the past year, Hopper has been instrumental in developing classes incorporating early learning standards from the National Association for the Education of Young Children. LCC education students have employment opportunities and/or work study opportunities working with children to learn and obtain on the job experience. Hopper helps to ensure that the education courses that are offered are based on the needs of the student; by arrangement, online or hybrid of on-line and on-ground.

Hopper meets with students, at their convenience, to explore the variety of careers within the early childhood field. She assists students considering higher education opportunities with the teacher licensure options, emphasizing the Early Childhood Unified. Annually, Hopper helps coordinate the KDHE approved workshops for area child care providers. Child-care providers are encouraged to enroll in college courses to increase quality services to children. She also collaborates with state agencies to provide low cost, full day early childhood workshops for child care providers, foster families and parents.

Outside of teaching education courses, Hopper is also involved in supervising practicums with Parsons Senior High School & Labette County High School early childhood classes in the Family & Consumer Science department. Hopper is a member of PSHS and LCHS Family and Consumer Science Advisory Committee and a partner with Labette County Family Collation to provide early childhood activities in the community.

Hopper was nominated by staff and students at LCC. The following are comments from former students:

“She asks us open-ended questions so there is a lot of discussion in class,” said one student. “She is always prepared for our classes and knows her materials.”

Another student said, “She is down-to-earth, on time, and prepared.”

For more information regarding LCC’s Adjunct Faculty of the Year Award or this year’s recipient, Sharla Hopper, please contact Janice George at (620) 820-1234 or by e-mail at JaniceG@Labette.edu.