



## ***2018 Leadership Award Presentation***

### **Dr. Sam Evans**

Dr. Sam Evans is currently serving as the Dean, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences at Western Kentucky University. Prior to coming to Western Kentucky University in 1990, he was the Chair, Department of Education and Physical Education, at William Woods College in Fulton, Missouri. His public school experiences included a social studies classroom teacher, high school level; chair, the department of social studies, 7-12; social studies curriculum supervisor, K-12; and an elementary classroom teacher, summer enrichment program for talented students. He received his B.S. and M.S. in Education, major in social studies, from the University of Central Missouri, and his Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Missouri-Columbia. His research interests include accountability and teacher candidate impact on student learning.

### **Significant Leadership in contributing to the field of education**

Just in higher education, Dr. Evans has been a chair, associate dean in three different areas, interim dean and dean of College of Education at Western Kentucky for 15 years. That is much longer than the life expectancy of a dean in this day and time.

He served on so many boards (including the two organizations represented here) that we cannot mention them all. He also played a leadership role in such as, Leader in Me in the schools, Center for Teaching Excellence and Learning, National Science and Math Initiative, and AACTE just to name a few.

I personally witnessed Dr. Evan's leadership skills when he and I were in dean positions at sister institutions in Ky. He was always on the cutting edge, helped inform legislators, and lead the deans' group in that state.

### **Leadership ties with the Renaissance Group**

Dr. Evans was on the ground floor when the work sample initiative was undertaken by Western in partnership with The Renaissance Group. This was a nationally accepted tool used by a number of educator preparation programs to document teacher candidate impact on P-12 student learning.

He has served on the boards of TRG and TECSCU and has been a leader and influential voice in both arenas for the betterment of educators across the country.

### **Contribution to at least one of the TRG principles**

An all campus responsibility-He has lead initiatives to partner across campus with other educational units like Arts and Sciences. School and district partnerships have been paramount in his leadership of the College of education. He has encouraged the use of technology for problem solving and sets the example. His school has been a leader in P-16 partnerships.

A National Math and Science Initiative was implemented that replicated the UTeach Program to Improve Teacher preparation programs by increasing quantity and quality of middle and high school mathematics and science teachers.

His unit partnered with his local housing authority to prepare educators and provide after school care for appropriate aged students. He also lead the way with "A Next Generation Learning" Partnership with the Council of Chief State School Officers and Stupski Foundation.

The list goes on and on....

### **Leader who has demonstrated collaborative working relationships**

It is definitely evident by all that has been said above that Dr. Evans is a collaborative leader and definitely exemplifies that in all he does.

On a personal note, Sam is a pleasure with whom to work. I have worked with Sam in three capacities: (Kentucky Deans Council, TECSCU, and TRG. In all of these venues he has been a very thoughtful and contributing participating member. Many times I have heard him say, "You might want to think about . . . or, "I did not do that myself . . ."

It is no wonder that the Wallace Foundation enticed him to work for them as he transitions in this next phase of his career.

I am so honored to give Dr. Sam Evans this award on behalf of The Renaissance Group.