**Distinguished Advisor Award - Application**

Question

**Select the nominee for Distinguished Advisor Award from the list of eligible advisors below. Advisors serving 4 or more years as of April 14, 2012, are eligible. An advisor may receive this award only once.**

Selection:

Moss, Linda

**Nomination 1 (3 Questions Listed Below): To be completed by a Chapter Officer or Current Member.**

Question 2

**Describe up to three examples of how the advisor contributed to the development of chapter members.**  
*(Response cannot exceed 500 words.)*

Answer:

Dr. Linda Moss is the backbone of the Beta Delta Phi chapter. Members and officers alike look to her for strength and support on a regular basis. When new members are inducted, she immediately offers opportunities for those members to become involved. By offering this unconditional acceptance, she begins to develop the member’s sense of self-esteem before he or she has even begun to be involved. Once a member becomes active in the chapter and begins to seek opportunities to serve the community through the various projects, Dr. Moss evaluates the individual’s strengths and gives them responsibilities accordingly. These responsibilities may sometimes be more difficult than the member feels capable of at first; however, Dr. Moss only offers what she feels the student is truly capable of and is always available to provide assistance to those who are struggling. Through this process of challenging the members of the chapter, Dr. Moss is able to develop the abilities of the members and sometimes even help them discover abilities they were not even aware they possessed. Dr. Moss’ interest in the development of students does not end with the members of PTK. The students who enroll in her classes find themselves in a challenging environment which many find intimidating. Success for any student is achieved only through great focus and serious effort, but the reward a student receives for achieving success in one of these classes goes beyond a college credit. Students who succeed in Dr. Moss’ classes find they possess more confidence in their own scholastic ability and are more successful in other endeavors. For those who find themselves truly struggling, Dr. Moss is always willing to make time to help them better understand the material. In short, Dr. Moss does more than teach a class. She prepares the minds of her students for the trials lying beyond the boundaries of their vision. This is true for the students in her class and for every member of the Beta Delta Phi chapter.

Question 3

**Describe up to three examples of how the advisor inspired chapter officers and members to participate in chapter programs.**  
*(Response cannot exceed 500 words.)*

Answer:

For Dr. Linda Moss, every project is an opportunity to involve every member of the Beta Delta Phi chapter. Though not every member can participate at each event, Dr. Moss is nonetheless persuasive in recruiting all the support she can. In 2011, after learning of the tragic earthquake and tsunami which struck Japan, Dr. Moss quickly encouraged the chapter to offer its support. Emphasizing a sense of international responsibility and basic humanity, she urged the chapter to formulate not just one but multiple fundraisers to support the victims of the disaster.   
Despite the flooding of 2011 and the extensive damage it caused, Dr. Moss encouraged the chapter to overcome this adversity and follow through with its plan to hold a beauty pageant to raise money for the Relay for Life charity as well as attend the relay itself. Both events were postponed as well as relocated, yet they were both inspiring successes.

The Honors Study Topic is yet another project Dr. Moss inspires the entire chapter to become involved in. The combination of the scientific and physical aspects of the topics is a point she never fails to impress upon the members of Beta Delta Phi. Researching the provocative and contemporary topics allows students to be exposed to different points of view and aspects of the world of which they may have no prior knowledge. Dr. Moss encourages the students in her chapter to open their minds to new and unfamiliar concepts by involving themselves in a kind of research they would not otherwise be inclined to pursue thereby improving their knowledge of the world in which they live and making them better stewards of gifts they have been given.

Question 4

**Describe up to three examples of how the advisor led the chapter to participate on the regional and/or international level.**  
*(Response cannot exceed 500 words.)*

Answer:

Dr. Linda Moss is the strongest supporter of individuals who wish to be involved with the worldwide organization of Phi Theta Kappa as opposed to merely remaining content with the projects of the local chapter. In the spring of 2011, Dr. Moss succeeded in motivating eight members to attend the OK/AR Regional Convention. She provided opportunities for those members to earn the money for their registration and hotel fees, acquisitioned a vehicle from the college motor pool, and even drove the students to the location of the event. Leading up to and even after arriving, Dr. Moss encouraged each member to run for Regional Office. She succeeded in convincing one member who subsequently was not elected but appreciated the opportunity to learn from the attempt.

The Phi Theta Kappa International Convention of 2011, was held in Seattle, Washington, which is a long way from Pocahontas, Arkansas, the home of the Beta Delta Phi chapter. This did not stop Dr. Moss from encouraging the chapter to attend. Despite the high cost of the trip, Dr. Moss never expressed doubt in any member’s ability to raise the necessary funds. Her optimism proved to be well-founded when she and four members stepped onto an airplane and began their Phi Theta Kappa adventure. Those who were in attendance at the convention thoroughly enjoyed the experience of fellowshipping with such a vast number of Phi Theta Kappa members. They will fondly carry their memories of the event with them the rest of their lives.  
The fall of 2011 brought with it the OK/AR Regional Honors Institute. Again, Dr. Moss strongly urged members to take the trip and experience the enjoyment a congregation of chapters has to offer. After assisting them to raise the funds, Dr. Moss drove five members and a guest all the way to Oklahoma to attend the event. The Honors Institute was a complete success, and the members who attended were again grateful to Dr. Moss for helping them to experience such a memorable trip.

**Describe the advisor's contributions as an advocate for your college's chapter in the areas of awareness, funding, and visibility on campus and in the community.**  
*(Response cannot exceed 500 words.)*

Dear Colleagues of Phi Theta Kappa

As President of Black River Technical College, it is my pleasure to nominate Dr. Linda Moss for the Phi Theta Kappa Distinguished Advisor Award. Dr. Moss has been an invaluable asset to the Beta Delta Phi Chapter for the last several years. She has consistently advocated on behalf of students and Phi Theta Kappa, servings as a fervent ally of those who seek her counsel and guidance. In each endeavor, Dr. Moss maintains a high level of professionalism, setting equally high standards for her students in the classroom and for the members of her chapter. They are motivated through her example to strive for excellence and therefore they often achieve greater goals than they ever thought themselves capable of accomplishing. Her leadership and standards for excellence are the driving forces behind this highly successful chapter.

Phi Theta Kappa continues to be the most reputable student organization on the BRTC campus. PTK sponsored campus and community service events are common and well-received both on campus and in the community. This notoriety has not occurred by chance. The current members supply the energy and the teamwork necessary to carry out the many goals of the chapter, but it is the inspiration and motivation provided by Dr. Moss that initiates the spirit of volunteerism and service within them. It is also her many years of dedicated service to Phi Theta Kappa and this community that has led to the wonderful and influential relationships the Beta Delta Phi chapter has with many local businesses and organizations. Her dedication to PTK is also demonstrated by her service as a regional advisor.

This college continues to grow and innovate, and Dr. Moss has grown with it. As we advance toward new technology and innovation, Dr. Moss embraces and utilizes these advancements for the betterment of her chapter members, her students, and herself. The Beta Delta Phi chapter is an integral part of the foundation of Black River Technical College. Through the continued efforts of and the wonderful example set by Dr. Moss, Phi Theta Kappa and BRTC will long remain strong allies in the goal of providing higher education and academic excellence to all who seek it. These are some of the reasons Dr. Moss has earned our admiration and respect. Now I request her efforts be honored with a public showing of respect by her receiving of the Distinguished Officer Award. Thank you for receiving my recommendation and for considering Dr. Linda Moss for this honor.

Sincerely,

Dr. Wayne Hatcher, President

Black River Technical College

*Tau Theta, Labette Community College (Honorary)*

*Hallmark/Distinguished College Administrator (2008)*