DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
2008-2009
BEACON AWARD

DR. ERIC PERSON

Dr. Eric Person is an assistant professor in the chemistry department, and he is a member of the campus Student Success Task Force. However, in many ways he acts as if he is a member of the Division of Student Affairs. Over the past academic year, Dr. Person has made significant contributions to our division through several activities including the development of a student job description and an academic checklist that was distributed to all students attending Dog Days Orientation this summer. He is also part of an ongoing effort to make those materials and other retention tools available as resources for academic advisors so they can help students navigate their way through their academic challenges.

Dr. Person is unusually creative and productive and has the ability to be both a visionary and a “doer” - who gets things done. From his suggestion a year ago - about the importance of study time – he helped develop a campaign to carry the message on study time expectations to the classroom. This fall, the campaign is being piloted with not only a poster but also a PowerPoint for faculty to review in their classes. He has been involved in several Student Success Task Force initiatives and has implemented many of those initiatives in his own courses. In doing so, he has served as a role model for other faculty.

Eric’s creativity was further evident when he designed an academic success scavenger hunt in his Chem 1a course in which students were encouraged to attend academic success workshops, Supplemental Instruction sessions, academic excellence workshops, and visit the Learning Center – all for extra credit within his course.

As you can see, Dr. Person is both a scholar and a practitioner, who cares deeply about students in and outside the classroom. He is an extraordinary faculty role model for demonstrating the value of Student Affairs and Academic Affairs collaboration. For all these reasons, he is a worthy recipient of our Division of Student Affairs Beacon Award for 2009.

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