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ASU Mid-South Selects NISOD Excellence Award Recipients

Arkansas State University Mid-South is proud to announce its 2020 recipients of the annual National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Excellence Awards. Honorees are Emilee Sides, Outstanding Staff and Johnny Powell and Bradford Roe, Outstanding Faculty.

NISOD is a membership organization committed to promoting and celebrating excellence in teaching, learning and leadership at community and technical colleges. NISOD's Excellence Awards recognize individuals each year who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment and contribution to their students and colleagues. There are two categories in the Excellence Awards: Outstanding Faculty and Outstanding Staff.

"Diesel Maintenance Technology faculty team, Johnny Powell and Brad Rowe, each received faculty awards for their dedication to their profession and their love of students. Together, they have brought stability and expert content to a program that is vital to a major driver of our local economy, the transportation sector," said Dr. Debra West, Chancellor of ASU Mid-South.

"The Staff Award went to Emilee Sides, former Assistant to the Chancellor and current Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance," West continued. "Her nominator cited what we all know to be true about Emilee: she is always pleasant to deal with, efficient in her responsibilities, and well-respected by everyone on campus. As an organization, we are so fortunate to have the commitment and dedication of each of these individuals on our team."

The NISOD honorees are selected annually by the Chancellor's Cabinet from a slate of individuals nominated by faculty and staff. Typically two awards are given annually – one for an outstanding faculty member and one for an outstanding staff member. This year the faculty award went to Powell and Roe as a team.

The honorees shared a few thoughts about their approach to their work and life.

"I am very honored to be selected by my colleagues. It's humbling to be nominated and selected by people you work with everyday," said Sides. "I just believe in a few basic tenets: work hard, forgive freely, love always, find beauty and potential in everyone. Do

your best to see other's perspective. Respond with kindness. Be patient. Show grace. And, as it's worth repeating, love always."

Johnny Powell's approach to any project: "If you do not have time to do it right, you sure do not have time to do it again!"

Brad Roe believes in a deeper meaning: "I love being an Educator. It brings me great joy to teach and sow seeds of knowledge into the lives of my students. Teaching is not a job but a calling. I'm a blessed man to be called to teach."

ASU Mid-South's Excellence Award recipients would have been celebrated during NISOD's annual conference in Austin, Texas. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's conference has moved to an online format.

About NISOD

NISOD is a membership organization committed to promoting and celebrating excellence in teaching, learning, and leadership at community and technical colleges. NISOD provides budget-friendly, high-quality, and faculty-focused programs and resources for community and technical colleges that want to make the most of their professional development dollars. For over 40 years, NISOD has aligned a wide array of benefits with the needs of members. The American Association of Community Colleges has named NISOD, "The country's leading provider of professional development for community college faculty, staff, and administrators."

About Arkansas State University Mid-South

Arkansas State University Mid-South is a public two-year institution of higher education with an open-door admission policy, serving Crittenden County, Arkansas and the surrounding areas. The College is committed to enriching lives through high quality educational programming that fosters student success, workforce development, and lifelong learning. For more information about ASU Mid-South, visit <https://www.asumidsouth.edu/>.



Emily Sides, Associate Vice Chancellor, Finance



Johnny Powell, Lead Instructor, Diesel Maintenance Technology



Bradford Roe, Instructor, Diesel Maintenance Technology