John Shultz is Faculty Member of the Year

John Shultz, biology instructor, was selected by the Southeastern Illinois College faculty as the 2003 recipient of the Loren P. Dallas Outstanding Teacher Award. He has also received the Illinois Community College Trustee Association’s (ICCTA) Outstanding Faculty Award, which makes him a finalist for community college teacher of the year.

Shultz is completing his 14th year at Southeastern and, according to student evaluations performed each semester, has for several years been the top-rated instructor in the college’s Math and Science Division.

That top rank may derive from Shultz’s willingness to go beyond the normal reach of his instructional duties. He routinely holds extra review sessions for his general education lab science courses; he developed an introductory microbiology course for students in allied health programs; he developed an environmental science general education course which has become a popular choice for non-science majors; and he is also currently writing a laboratory/activities manual.

Beyond the classroom Shultz serves as chairman of Southeastern’s General Education Assessment Committee while also serving on the Campus Environment Committee, the International Education Committee and the Professional Development and Planning Committee.

Beyond Southeastern Shultz serves as a member of the Life & Physical Sciences General Education Panel for the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI), helping to develop the statewide general education core curriculum for students seeking associate and bachelor degrees. This work also helps provide students a guarantee that their IAI-approved credits will transfer to four-year schools.

Shultz is also a member of the Association of Biology Lab Educators and attends annual meetings of the Illinois State Academy of Sciences.

Past recognition includes an Excellence Award from the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development.

Shultz earned his associate degree from Lincoln Land Community College, his bachelor of arts in biology from Sangamon State University, and his master’s degree in zoology from South Dakota State University. He has also completed graduate work at Canada’s University of New Brunswick and Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.

Shultz’s teaching and learning experiences have coalesced into a philosophy of education that stresses fair and equitable availability of educational opportunity for all at a reasonable cost. “Education is a life-long journey of discovery in which we learn about ourselves, our society and our environment,” he said.

The Loren P. Dallas Outstanding Teacher Award was established by the family of the late Loren P. Dallas of Carrier Mills, and is bestowed each year upon an SIC instructor who has established an outstanding record. Dallas served as a member of the SIC Board of Trustees and was a staunch advocate of formal education.