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Five Washington Public University Faculty Receive 2016 Rep. Timm Ormsby Citizenship Award

Olympia, WA. — March 09, 2016 — Central Washington University's Elvin Delgado, Eastern Washington University's Laurie Morley, Evergreen State College's Chico Herbison, Washington State University's Bidisha Mandal, and Western Washington University's Trula Nicholas are the 2016 recipients of the Representative Timm Ormsby Award for Faculty Citizenship. The award was created in 2013 and named for Rep. Timm Ormsby in recognition of his tireless effort to promote civic leadership across the state. Sponsored by the Washington Council of Faculty Representatives, this award seeks to encourage, recognize, and honor exemplary civic engagement by faculty from each of Washington's six public baccalaureates. Nominees for the award are solicited by Faculty Governance Leadership at each institution and selected for exceptional achievement. A brief selection of award winning accomplishments are highlighted below for each recipient.

Dr. Elvin Delgado, Assistant Professor of Geography, Central Washington University: During his first year at CWU, Dr. Elvin Delgado proposed, initiated and now directs the CWU Institute for Integrated Energy Studies. Under Dr. Delgado's direction, the Tulalip Tribe and the Institute received a grant from Bonneville Environmental Foundation to install and monitor solar panels on the Tulalip's Early Learning Center. He is currently in conversations with the Quinault Tribe to work toward a more sustainable economy, energy sovereignty, clean energy initiatives, and tsunami-risk-related relocation. The Institute also collaborates with the City of Ellensburg on a \$750,000 grant from the WA Department of Commerce Clean Energy Fund 2 to expand the Ellensburg Community Solar project. In 2015, Governor Jay Inslee appointed Dr. Delgado to the Board of Directors of the Joint Center for Deployment and Research in Earth-Abundant Materials. Dr. Delgado also serves as a public speaker to highlight the importance of energy transition, community development, and elementary education. He also spent a week in Cuba working with a delegation sponsored by the Fulbright IIE to further international relations through academic diplomacy.

Dr. Laurie Morley, Professor of Physical Education, Health and Recreation; Program Director, Health and Fitness at Eastern Washington University: Dr. Laurie Morley has been Professor of Physical Education, Health and Recreation since 2000 when she joined the EWU faculty. Recognizing that our future lies with the next generations of civic, economic, business and cultural leaders, Dr. Morley has consistently worked at the interstices of school, athletics and sustainability. Programs and events that Dr. Morley has developed or co-developed that raise the standard of living in our regional communities include: the Snow Stomp on Mt. Spokane; the EWU/West Valley School District Civics Conference; and professional development opportunities for teachers in Medical Lake, East Valley, Spokane, and Cheney, Washington. She has also led the effort, since 2010, to create and maintain an EWU Community Garden, an effort that has significantly raised the profile of concerns about sustainability on campus and throughout the region. Currently, Dr. Morley is working with EWU Residence Life to establish a Living Learning Community with a focus on Health, Wellness & Sustainability, thus ensuring that these concerns are foregrounded for EWU graduates and future leaders in Washington State and the Inland Northwest.

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Dr. Chico Herbison, American Studies, The Evergreen State College: Dr. Chico Herbison has been a staunch supporter and activist on behalf of the Evergreen Gateways program for incarcerated youth [see <http://www.evergreen.edu/gateways/>] for years. In this faculty teaching role, he brings Evergreen students into Green Hills correctional facility for incarcerated youth. Students and Green Hills youth weekly engage in programs focused on education, literature and activities, including seminar. During the 20+ years this program has been in place at Evergreen, youth participating in the Gateways program have eventually become Evergreen students. Dr. Herbison's unflagging commitment to education as a social justice activity draws Evergreen students every year to participate in his learning community and team-taught liberal arts programs, in addition to those enrolled in the Gateways program. His service to the Evergreen community links the college daily with his focus on surrounding communities, including those who are or were incarcerated and those who are homeless. He also works with government and community non-profit organizations with social service missions. He was nominated for his "excellence in teaching, his creativity and outreach, and his service toward equity and justice."

Dr. Bidisha Mandal, Health Extension Economist, Washington State University: Dr. Mandal came to WSU in 2007 and has been serving since 2013 as an Associate Professor and Extension Specialist. Her extension program integrates economic research with applied analysis to address key public health issues and improve health related decision-making throughout the life-cycle. Dr. Mandal helped to implement an intervention program related to the school food environment for over 2,000 Spokane middle school students. Uniquely, this program reduced vending machine beverages to water only, limited ala carte offerings, extended the changes in the school food environment to three years, and assessed adolescent food consumption both in- and outside school. By modifying the school food environment, there were significant reductions in the consumption of pastries and juice in school and an increase in the consumption of milk outside school. Dr. Mandal has also worked to educate adults about obesity, depression and transitional care. By taking her own and others' research from health economics and health behaviors and building a strong Extension program, Dr. Mandal has addressed critical needs and issues about the health of the population of Washington State.

Dr. Trula Nicholas, Human Services Program, Western Washington University: Dr. Trula Nicholas is a statewide leader who supports nonprofit and civic organizations working toward a more just society. Through her determined efforts, the counsel of Washington nonprofits prioritized issues of human rights and disparity of privilege. Through Dr. Nicholas' work with the Whatcom Council of Nonprofits, diverse stakeholders have come together to better collaborate on meeting the needs of Whatcom County residents. Her commitments to Leadership Whatcom created opportunity for scores of local leaders to expand their thinking on social justice issues. Her skillful moderation of potentially contentious political candidate forums in Whatcom County supported multiple bi-partisan efforts to better bridge the divide between the non-profit and public sectors. She often shares her nonprofit governance expertise with local leaders. She has brought together stakeholders to support community involvement in the Roosevelt neighborhood and the development of community nights at Shuksan Middle School. Her work in the nonprofit sector has directly influenced the ways in which practitioners and leaders work with our state's most vulnerable populations, leading to significant advancements in how these populations are served.

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