

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PETROLEUM GEOLOGISTS'

GROVER E. MURRAY MEMORIAL DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR AWARD

G. Randy Keller, Jr.

Citation: In recognition of outstanding performance in the classroom, field, and department chairman's office informing, inspiring, counseling, and leading geoscience student professional and personal development.

Spoken to a very large number of people, the word 'geology' combined with "The University of Texas at El Paso" brings the response "Randy Keller." Dr. G. Randy Keller, Jr. has been on the UTEP faculty since 1976 and served as chair for 17 of those years. He has taught thousands of students at all levels. Randy has directed 22 doctoral dissertations and 63 master's theses. Three of his graduate students won university-wide awards as the best theses completed at UTEP in a given year.

Proficient in the classroom and the field, he has provided his students with an impressive breadth of experience in the geologically spectacular terrain of Trans-Pecos Texas, and New Mexico as well other parts of North America, Africa, and Europe. He has been creative in finding ways to support his students and while he has attracted more than \$23 million outside funding for research, he has been able support students and do significant work in areas of interest that were not heavily funded.

Randy's university education was obtained at Texas Tech University where he received a B.S. in mathematics and an M.S. and Ph.D in geosciences, concentrating in geophysics. Following a year at the University of Utah and three years at the University of Kentucky, he accepted a position as assistant professor at the University of Texas at El Paso in 1976 and has been there from that time. During his tenure at UTEP he has also served as director of the Kidd Seismological Observatory and founding director of the J.W. Miller Geophysical Lab. His accomplishments in teaching and research were rewarded in 1993 when he was named the L.A. Nelson Professor.

Contributions to education come from many actions including producing the scientific literature that communicates research findings. Randy has been especially active in this area serving in editorial positions for a variety of journals including *Geophysics*, *Geophysical Journal International*, *Journal of Geophysical Research*, and the *Geological Society of America Bulletin*. Among his many awards are the A.I. Levorsen Memorial Award from AAPG and the George P. Woollard Award from GSA.

His research interests continue to focus on integrated studies of the structure and evolution of the continental lithosphere. His research interests also include the application of remote sensing to geoscience investigations and the use of geophysics in energy and water resources research. Most recently he has helped lead efforts to build a strong national geoinformatics program. This important award from AAPG is fitting recognition of Randy's many contributions to education and research.