

Holen is awarded the Golden Apple from Kansas Foundation for Ag in the Classroom

College of Education at Kansas State University Dean, Michael Holen, is presented with the Golden Apple for his support of KFAC.

MANHATTAN, Kan., Nov. 28, 2011 – The Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (KFAC) recently presented Michael Holen, Dean of the College of Education, with the Golden Apple award.

This award is only given to individuals that have gone above and beyond the call of duty to help KFAC meet its mission of connecting Kansas classrooms with agriculture. In many cases the dedication of these individuals to KFAC's mission is astonishing.

Dean Holen has been a steady, dependable supporter of the KFAC program. As Dean of the College of Education at Kansas State University, he has been instrumental in fulfilling the memorandum of understanding between the college and KFAC. The memorandum allows KFAC to provide staff with benefits offered to state employees. The foundation is listed as a sponsored program through the College of Education.

Holen has provided office space for KFAC in Bluemont Hall for many years. He also has been supportive of staff time donated to KFAC in the case of Barb Havlicek, Kathy Quigley and Mary Hammel. Recently, Holen announced he is moving to the School of Leadership Studies where he will continue to oversee the Midwest Equity Center, the National Academic Advising Executive Offices and the Office of Educational Innovation and Evaluation. At the end of the 2011-12 academic year, Holen will enter phased retirement.

“Dean Holen has been very supportive in helping us find funding over the years,” said Cathy Musick, executive director for KFAC. “We wish him the best in his retirement. It's been great to have a Dean who has an agriculture background. Musick presented Holen with the Golden Apple award on Nov. 8, 2011.

“I am very honored by this award because I know the time and energy the foundation board members give to this program, so I know there are a lot of deserving people,” Holen said. “Clearly for the state of Kansas, having a broad awareness of the importance of agriculture to our economy, lifestyle and values is crucial. Kansas State is the right place to be the home of this effort. I appreciate what KFAC has done to make education better for the children of Kansas.”

###