

People

McKnight named outstanding teacher

G e r a l d McKnight, professor of history at Hood College, was honored recently as an Outstanding Teacher at the 1989 National Conference on Higher Education.



The conference theme, Stand and Deliver promoted teachers who had helped students succeed against the odds like Jaime A. Escalante, a math teacher at Garfield High in Los Angeles. Escalante, whose story is told in the movie, "Stand and Deliver," has taken a dying math program with poor students and turned it around. Garfield is now one of the nation's leading schools in helping students pass the College Board's Advanced Placement Calculus Exam. Escalante was the conference's keynote speaker.

Dr. McKnight, who lives in Frederick, was nominated by President Martha E. Church and Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs Barbara Hetrick.

Dr. McKnight has been teaching at Hood for 18 years and recently served as chair of the department of history and political science. He has developed several new courses for the history department, including Politics of Assassination, a course dealing with the King and Kennedy shootings of the '60s. He will be on sabbatical this fall while continuing research on the federal government's intrusions into the civil rights movement of the '60s, specifically the FBI's involvement in the Poor People's Campaign of 1968, which was inspired by the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Earlier this year, Dr. McKnight was nominated for the Professor of the Year program sponsored by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education.