



G R O S S M O N T  
C O L L E G E

News Release

[www.grossmont.edu](http://www.grossmont.edu)

---

College and Community Relations  
619 - 644- 7840  
619 - 644- 7090 (FAX)

CONTACT: Susan Herney, College & Community Relations 619-644-7840

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 4, 2003

**GROSSMONT COLLEGE NAMES 'DISTINGUISHED FACULTY' 2002-2003**

**El Cajon** - Two Grossmont College faculty have been selected by their peers to join the prestigious ranks of Distinguished Faculty. Dr. Gerald (Jerry) R. Baydo, instructor of history, and Leslie E. Lawrence, art instructor, are the recipients of the recognition for 2002-2003 academic year.

Since 1996, 10 faculty have been honored with the distinction. The Distinguished Faculty Award is a project of the Academic Senate, which solicits nominations through each of the academic and student services divisions of the college in the spring. The Statement of Purpose of the Distinguished Faculty Award says, "It is an essential part of academic life to identify, encourage and reward excellence among the faculty. With respect to this end, Grossmont College will present an Annual Distinguished Faculty Award to a faculty member, selected by peers and publicly acclaimed."

Any full-time tenured faculty member may be nominated for the award, which is based on sustained individual commitment to excellence in teaching, or in the performance of other assigned duties; as a faculty member who has contributed to his/her discipline; through an active and involved role in campus affairs; by involvement in the community as a representative of the college.

## **Dr. Gerald (Jerry) Baydo**

### *Instructor of History*

Dr. Baydo has been a leader in the development on Online Education at Grossmont. He continues to teach a class for instructors who wish to learn how to develop an online class, and he has recently been named as Online Coordinator at Grossmont. He has encouraged the use of technology in the classroom and has helped to make technology available for the faculty.

He currently serves as the President of the National Social Science Association (NSSA) which helps educators in the Social Sciences to present and share information about their fields. This organization publishes an academic journal and holds conferences each year. Jerry has helped to provide Professional Development opportunities for Grossmont faculty and has organized several conferences, providing networking opportunities for Grossmont faculty.

Another of Dr. Baydo's contributions is his work to develop online textbooks, which are far less expensive for students and which can be accessed over the Internet. He has served several years as Chairman of the History Department. During his tenure as chairman, he was instrumental in the development of new courses, including Latin American studies and Native American studies, in addition to several online courses.

Baydo earned a bachelor's degree at Seattle University, a master's degree at the University of Washington, and a Ph.D. at the University of New Mexico.

## **Leslie E. (Les) Lawrence**

### *Art*

Les Lawrence has had a distinguished career as an artist and as a teacher. His work has been exhibited nationally as well as in Mexico, Korea, New Zealand, Czech Republic, Hungary, Germany, Sweden, and the U.K. in more than 200 one-person and group exhibitions. In addition, his works are represented in more than 20 public and private collections. Lawrence has also earned several awards and honors given by various institutions and organizations.

Les Lawrence is responsible for bringing important innovations to Grossmont College Ceramics Department through his introduction of technology into the classroom as a tool for transfer imagery on clay. One of the pioneers in computer applications for ceramics, he is also known for the use of glaze calculation software. Lawrence is also credited for using computer technology in the creation of several web sites including the Grossmont College Ceramics Website, Grossmont College Viewpoint Juried Exhibitions Site, The International Museum of Print and Clay, and the Water Closet Workshop site, which was created as an interactive site in conjunction with a creative workshop in Sweden.

His publication record includes photographs and descriptions of his techniques in 24 ceramic books including *Clay and Glaze for the Potter; Ceramics and Print; The Ceramic Design Book; The Craft and Art of Clay; Hands In Clay; Ceramics; 50 American Ceramic Artists*. Lawrence is included in numerous articles in major publications including *Ceramics Monthly; Ceramic Arts and Perception; American Craft; and Korean Ceramics Crafts*.

A native of Corpus Christi, Texas, Lawrence received his early education in Texas. He received an associate degree in art from Southplains College, a bachelor of arts degree from Southwestern State Oklahoma University, and after graduate study at Texas Tech University, he earned a master of fine arts degree in ceramics from Arizona State

University. He taught at Hardin-Simmons University, and Arizona State University. He began his Grossmont teaching career in 1970.

#