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MEDIA RELEASE

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS PROFESSOR HONORED FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

WHAT

Professor Michael B. Cosmopoulos of the University of Missouri-St. Louis has been honored with the 2004 Teaching Excellence Award of the Archaeological Institute of America.

DETAILS

The Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) is North America's oldest and largest organization devoted to archaeology. Founded in 1879 and chartered by the United States Congress in 1906, the AIA has nearly 9,000 members belonging to 102 local societies in the United States, Canada, and overseas.

Every year, the AIA honors one professor from the USA and Canada, who has demonstrated excellence in the teaching of archaeology and developed innovative teaching methods or interdisciplinary curricula.

This year, the AIA is pleased to announce that **Dr. Michael Cosmopoulos**, Hellenic Government-Karakas Foundation Professor of Greek Studies and Professor of Archaeology in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Missouri- St. Louis, has received the prestigious Award for Excellence in Teaching for 2004.



Dr. Michael Cosmopoulos

CITATION

The award ceremony was held on January 4, in San Francisco. In reading the citation, Prof. Jane Waldbaum, President of the AIA, said “*the AIA can be proud to honor such an outstanding scholar.*” Professor Cosmopoulos is described by his students and colleagues as “*energetic, exciting, provocative, scholarly, humorous, serious, and most of all understanding towards the ever-changing minds of his students*” and is credited with the significant growth of Classical Studies in the universities he has taught.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Professor Cosmopoulos taught for twelve years at the University of Manitoba, in Canada, where he is still an Adjunct Professor of Classics. In 2001 he took over the Hellenic Government-Karakas Foundation Professor of Greek Studies at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, where he is also Professor of Archaeology. He has excavated in numerous ancient sites and published many books and over 80 articles and papers in scientific and scholarly journals. He has been honored with the *Rh Award for Outstanding Contributions to Scholarship and Research in the Humanities*.

Professor Cosmopoulos is also well known for the promotion of Hellenic Studies. In Canada he founded the **Pan-Macedonian Association of Manitoba**, the **Canadian Committee for the Restitution of the Parthenon Marbles**, and the **Center for Hellenic Civilization** at the University of Manitoba.. In the US, he created the **Greek Studies Program** of the University of Missouri-St. Louis, which after only two years of operation boasts over 200 students. He has also organized international conferences on the Parthenon Marbles and the Olympic Games.

Currently, he directs three archaeological projects in Greece, where every summer he trains scores of students in Greek archaeology

MORE INFORMATION

For more information on the AIA and the Award, please contact Ms. Jody Acevedo, Administrative Coordinator/Online Editor, Archaeological Institute of America, jacevedo@aia.bu.edu.