



Feb. 8, 2007

Olivet College administrator receives Michigan Campus Compact award

OLIVET, Mich. – Lynn Ward Gray, associate vice president for diversity and community affairs at Olivet College, received the Michigan Campus Compact (MCC) Faculty/Staff Community Service-Learning Award. This is the highest award MCC bestows annually on faculty and staff in the state. Gray will be formally honored as part of the MCC's 11th annual conference, during an awards reception Feb. 8.

Gray, of Battle Creek, was designated by peers as the person who made the most outstanding contributions in the area of community service-learning. This award recognizes the influence on, or engagement of students to be involved in community service or service-learning through modeling, instruction and/or special projects.

Gray has made community service, service-learning and civic engagement a mainstay of her role as an educator at Olivet. Since her arrival in 2002, she has led and grown the college's Service Day event by expanding it to twice a year. She was instrumental in bringing a National Association for the Advancement of Colored People chapter to the college and is involved in creating a unique experience for Olivet students by coordinating a class that involves a trip to Chicago by working with the Chicago Center for Urban Life and Culture. The main catalyst for this nomination was her introduction of Olivet to the Children's Defense Fund Freedom School in Battle Creek. She is a member of the steering committee and has been involved since the inaugural Battle Creek Freedom School was launched in summer 2006.

MCC is a state-level non-profit organization that promotes the education and commitment of Michigan college students to be civically engaged citizens, through creating and expanding academic, co-curricular and campus-wide opportunities for community service, service-learning and civic engagement.

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Established in 1844, Olivet College is a private, liberal arts institution located in south central Michigan. The college remains dedicated to its vision of *Education for Individual and Social Responsibility* by providing a quality higher education to all, regardless of gender, race or financial means. The college is home to more than 1,000 students, who study under *The Olivet Plan*. In this unique educational experience, students engage in both curricular and co-curricular programs that combine real world experiences with lectures and service learning.

