



For Immediate Release

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Terry Campus Awards 2007 Distinguished Alumni

DOVER- Delaware Technical & Community College, Terry Campus recognized Major Harry W. Downes, Jr., Margarete Fair MacLeish and Kathleen Heron Still as its 2007 Distinguished Alumni during a ceremony held Wednesday, April 25 on the campus.

“These recipients have diverse backgrounds and accomplishments, yet they possess one common thread,” College President Dr. Orlando J. George, Jr. said. “They used their experiences from Delaware Tech to continue a legacy of making a difference in other people’s lives.”

Since 1997, distinguished alumni have been honored for success in their chosen careers and making significant contributions to the community as well as to Delaware Tech.

Vice President and Campus Director Daniel L. Simpson introduced the first honoree as a “local success story.” Major Harry W. Downes, Jr. began his career in 1980 at the Camden-Wyoming Police Department. During that time, he attended Terry Campus and graduated in 1983 with associate degrees in criminal justice and computer engineering. That year, he began service in the Delaware State Police Department. He continued his education obtaining a bachelor’s degree in 2001 and a master’s degree in 2003. Presently Major Downes is an administrative officer responsible for overseeing the operation of state police human resources, training and traffic sections at headquarters. He also serves as the domestic violence coordinator. He is president of the Delaware Chapter of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE).

Margarete Fair MacLeish, introduced by Edward Marecki, former chair of the Terry Campus business department, earned her associate’s degree by taking night classes in secretarial

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studies from the Terry Campus while working for the Dover Air Force Base as an office clerk. After graduating in 1979, she made the move to management as the support services supervisor. She supplemented her experience with a bachelor's degree in 1986 and obtained a master's degree in 1993. She is presently the human resources officer on the base and has been awarded as Civilian of the Year three times. She also participates in Kent County's Personnel Administration Board and the Caesar Rodney High School Parent Advisory Committee.

"I am honored to be a Delaware Tech graduate," Mrs. MacLeish said. "And I don't hesitate to tell others as I encourage them to pursue higher education."

Kathleen H. Still earned a bachelor's degree in home economics in 1977. After working as a merchandising assistant for JC Penny in Dover for eight years, she decided to make a career change. She then earned an associate degree in building science technology from the Terry Campus while employed by the Dover Air Force Base as a civilian draftsman, graduating in 1986. Mrs. Still is presently an engineering technician on the base and has been recognized for her superior performance and leadership naming her Civilian of the Year twice. Mrs. Still also utilizes her professional talents to contribute to the community by serving as the secretary for the Delmarva Post Society of American Military Engineers (SAME).

Dr. Daniel Houghtaling, director of the Terry Campus's Corporate and Community Programs, recalled Mrs. Still as a student who had "impeccable skills as a draftswoman."

Representatives Nancy Wagner and Robert Walls and Senator John Still III awarded the honorees with tributes from the House of Representatives and Senate. Wanda G. Spiering, a 2001 Distinguished Alumna, presented them with congratulatory letters written by Senator Tom Carper. Dover Mayor Stephen Speed and former Mayor James Hutchison, a 1999 Distinguished Alumnus, were also in attendance.

To find out more about Terry Campus Distinguished Alumni and to see a list of past recipients please visit www.dtcc.edu/terry/alumni.htm.

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