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2011

## **Excellence in Academic Outreach (2011)**

Jeffrey Kovac

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## 2011 Excellence in Academic Outreach

Jeffrey Kovac

This year's award goes to Jeffrey Kovac, a tenured faculty member of the Department of Chemistry since 1976. Kovac directs the department's undergraduate instructional program, carries a regular teaching load, and maintains an active program of scholarship and research.



His talents as an educator reach well beyond the UT campus. As director of the Governor's School for Science and Engineering, Kovac designs curriculum and activities for 150 of Tennessee's brightest high school students every year, recruiting appropriate faculty members and teaching at least one seminar himself.

In 2009, he was invited to direct the Tennessee Science Olympiad State Tournament. This program introduces middle and high school students to science and engineering concepts through competitive events. He has improved the state Science Olympiad website and has developed and staffed a coaches' workshop for Tennessee teachers.



The **Excellence in Academic Outreach** honor is awarded to a faculty member whose extraordinary contributions to the public have occurred as an outgrowth of academic pursuits and are related to the University's academic mission.

The land-grant mission of the University of Tennessee directs us to use our intellectual capital to benefit the state's citizens. The Academic Outreach Award goes to a faculty member who exemplifies this part of the university's mission.

### 2011 Honors

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