



Dr. Robert L. Perry

The **Robert L. Perry Mentoring Award**, established by a separate endowment, is an Annual Award recognizing outstanding persons who demonstrate the same spirit of mentoring and commitment to students and faculty as Dr. Robert L. Perry, one of the earliest members of the *National Association for Ethnic Studies* and one of the first African Americans to earn a Ph.D. in sociology from Wayne State University. The award honors the lifetime accomplishments of this extraordinary individual while supporting the development of talented professionals who mentor students and faculty, by going above and beyond the required professorial 'call of duty' in the college/university environment. This award is bestowed upon an individual who devotes significant, often under-appreciated time, to promoting and supporting—beyond the classroom—future generations of scholars and activists.

Robert L. Perry is a pioneer in Black and Ethnic Studies. He was one of the earliest directors to oversee an Ethnic Studies program that later officially became the Ethnic Studies Department at Bowling Green State University. He spent 27 years at Bowling Green State University, serving as the Director of the Ethnic Studies Program for 10 years. He also served 17 years as the Chair of the Department of Ethnic Studies. He served as Department Head of African American Studies at Eastern Michigan University from 1997 to 2003. He has mentored a great many M.A. and Ph.D. students and junior faculty over the years, providing guidance, mentorship, and critical insights on how to navigate a system such as higher education that often can provide more barriers than opportunities in order for students and junior faculty, especially those of color, to succeed.

The **Robert L. Perry Mentoring Award** recognizes mentoring and advising as one of the most under appreciated, time-consuming aspects of one's career in higher education.

Nomination and Submission Process

Application and supporting documentation must include, but is not limited to:

1. A letter of nomination from a NAES member detailing the teaching, advising and mentoring experience of the nominee;
2. A current curriculum vitae;
3. Two additional letters of support from administrators, faculty, staff and past and present students. (In order to avoid the appearance of "Conflict of Interest," letters from past students are encouraged);
4. Other relevant information deemed appropriate for consideration.
5. Nomination and supporting documentation must be received on or before **March 1, 2012**. Please send completed nomination to dariza@ethnicstudies.org

Award Details

- The **Robert L. Perry Mentoring Award** will be presented at the Annual Conference of the *National Association for Ethnic Studies*.
- The Award includes a unique ethnic gift.
- A portion of the recipient's travel/hotel expenses will be eligible for reimbursement, if requested. Any such financial consideration requires appropriate documentation (receipts) and approval by the NAES Awards Committee.
- The *National Association for Ethnic Studies* Awards Committee reviews all applicants and selects the award recipient.

For more information, please contact:

Diane Ariza, Chair

NAES Awards Committee

dariza@ethnicstudies.org