

Honors awarded during Peru State commencement

(KLZA)-- During the recent commencement ceremony at Peru State College, several awards were presented in addition to the diploma's to graduates.

Joseph “Seph” Fauver, a Peru State Graduate was presented the 2021 Distinguished Service Award which honors significant contributions to the College or an alumnus who has achieved distinction and recognition in his or her field.

Dr. Fauver has applied his expertise in genomics and genomic epidemiology to protect communities by studying the transmission of the COVID-19. This expertise put him at the front lines of the efforts to fight the pandemic.

Last summer Fauver reached out to provide guidance as Peru State prepared for fall classes on campus. He continues to provide weekly guidance by phone and has helped direct resources to the most impactful practices to provide a safe environment for the campus community.

In addition, Pam and Fred Robertson received the 2020 Distinguished Service Award. Pam was a former co-director of the Peru State College Foundation Board and directed proceeds from her friend Norma Jeanne Fensler to create the Norma Jeanne Fensler Memorial Scholarship at Peru State College which will provide more than \$80-thousand in scholarships this year.

The scholarships are to allow students who would not otherwise be able to attend college the opportunity to attend Peru State and seek a degree.

The 2021 Teaching Excellence Award Winner is Dr. Gul Ahmad, Associate Professor of Biology. He was selected by the Nebraska State College of Trustees as the 2021 Teacher Excellence Award recipient for the Nebraska State college System.

In addition, Dr. Darolyn Seay, Associate Professor of Education was honored with the 2020 Teaching Excellence Award. She has been a member of the Peru State College faculty since 2008.