# THE SWARTNEY-HARRISON “PASSION FOR TEACHING SCIENCE”
## 2010-2011 Award

## SWARTNEY-HARRISON
Dr. Joyce Swartney joined the faculty at Buffalo State College in 1968 where she taught undergraduate secondary science methods courses and graduate courses in elementary school curriculum. She became the Associate Dean of Natural and Social Science, a position that she held until her retirement in 1994.

Dr. Swartney was a nationally known science educator who made a significant impact as a researcher and curriculum developer. Angeline D. Harrison was the aunt of Dr. Swartney and of the Donor, Judy Balmer. Although Ms. Harrison never received a college degree, she valued higher education with the utmost regard and was herself a life-long learner.

In the spirit of keeping the education ideals of both of these women alive and because of Dr. Swartney’s dedication to science teacher education and to the teaching of science in elementary and secondary schools, this Fund has been established to provide Buffalo State students with the opportunity to develop professionally as teachers of science.

1. **ELIGIBILITY** - **One annual award of $1,000** to a student working toward an undergraduate or graduate education degree at Buffalo State in biology, chemistry, earth science, physics, general science, other future science major or a student enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate education major offered by the Elementary Education and Reading Department with a science concentration. Also eligible are Buffalo State post baccalaureate students working toward certification in the above described elementary and secondary areas and the above described students who graduated from Buffalo State in the six months prior to the application deadline.

2. **CRITERIA**
   - **Academics**: 1) Applicant must have completed all course work for his/her science education degree or for his/her declared major in the Elementary Education and Reading Department with a science concentration and must have completed at least one student teaching placement. 2) Applicant must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher in his/her science major or science concentration (for elementary students) or certification coursework.
   - **Personal Statement**: Applicant must submit a narrative describing his/her “passion for teaching science” as evidenced by creative methods in science teaching, creative assessments, science inquiry practices and implementation techniques, parent/family engagement, outcomes and impact. Description should not exceed three double spaced pages (12 font with one inch margins). This narrative may be strengthened by samples of the applicant’s work, such as photographs, creative assessments, etc. The total submission should not exceed six electronic pages.
   - **Recommendations**: Applicant must submit two letters of support: one from an education colleague who can describe the merit of the applicant’s work and one from a student or student’s parent who can speak to the impact that the teacher has made. Letter should not exceed two pages each.
   - **Application Process**: Applicant must submit his/her application package electronically to the chair of the Earth Science and Science Education Department. The application packet must include: 1) a cover sheet with applicant’s full name, address, phone number, email address, Buffalo State major, and expected certification(s), 2) the required written description, and 3) the two letters of recommendation. Deadline for all documents is **June 15, 2011**.

3. **DISBURSEMENT**  Recipient will be notified of his/her selection at the end of the spring semester by letter from the Chair of the Earth Science and Science Education Department. The recipient must write a letter of acknowledgement to the Donor prior to any disbursement of funds.

4. **SELECTION PANEL** Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee consisting of the Earth Science and Science Education Department chair or his/her designee and a representative of both the college secondary science education and elementary methods professors as designated by the chair/s.

Applications must be emailed to:
**Earth Science and Science Education Department Chair, Dr. Gary S. Solar, solars@buffalostate.edu**