Cindy Campbell, department chair and professor of physical education at St. Louis Community College-Florissant Valley, has been named the 41st recipient of the David L. Underwood Memorial Lecture Award.

David L. Underwood was known for his love of education. He was deeply concerned with the welfare of students and staff alike. His dedication went beyond office hours as he tirelessly devoted his time and talents to further STLCC’s mission at Florissant Valley.

Recipients of the Underwood Award demonstrate that same dedication and commitment. Chosen by a committee of peers, recipients exhibit excellence in instruction and a genuine, humanistic concern for students, faculty, staff and the field of education.

“I am both humbled and honored to receive this award,” Campbell said, noting the depth of the teaching faculty at Florissant Valley. “David L. Underwood was a pillar of
the community; trustworthy and well-respected by his peers. It’s moving to know that my colleagues recognize these same qualities in me.”

A 26-year employee of the college, Campbell has spent her career at STLCC-Florissant Valley. In addition to teaching a variety of courses in health and wellness and aquatics, she has also coached volleyball and served one year as the interim athletic director.

“I knew I wanted to teach ever since I was in junior high,” Campbell said. “I’ve always enjoyed listening and learning about new things. It has been a privilege to share my passion for education with students and celebrate their success.”

Campbell grew up in De Soto, Mo. A standout athlete, she earned a bachelor’s degree from Arkansas State University, where she was a four-year letterman and scholarship recipient for volleyball. In addition to receiving All-Conference honors, she was the first female athlete to receive the McDonald Southland Conference Academic Scholarship to pursue an advanced degree.

A self-described lifelong learner, Campbell earned a master’s degree in secondary education at Memphis University and a specialist degree in educational administration and leadership from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville. She holds a lifetime secondary education certificate in physical education and an advanced secondary school administration certificate from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Campbell also completed STLCC’s Leadership Management certificate program.

Outside of the classroom, Campbell has served on numerous district committees, ranging from curriculum and academic governance, to enrollment and retention, wellness, and health and safety. She has been a part of two separate Innovation of the Year Award teams at Florissant Valley, and she is a past recipient of an Excellence Award from the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development.

Campbell has worked to build relationships with community college faculty leaders in Missouri and around the country through her involvement with STLCC’s National Education Association (NEA) Executive Council. She currently is completing her two-year term as president. Prior to this position, she served as vice president for four years.

Campbell will address her colleagues in August during Service Week. Although she is keeping the topic of her lecture under wraps, she hopes it will entertain and inspire the campus community.