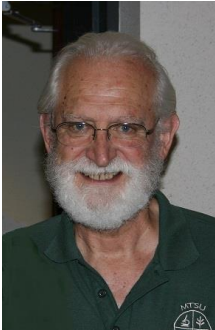


BLUM



Dr. Kurt Blum Scholarship

This award was established with recycling program funds in 1995.

MTSU biology faculty 1969–2013

Born in Oak Park, IL, Dr. Kurt Blum earned his A. B. degree from Hanover College (Indiana) in 1961, his M.A. degree at Indiana, and his Ph.D. in 1968 at Florida State University.

Dr. Blum taught courses in dendrology, flowering plants, non-flowering plants, and biology for the non-major. He was a popular teacher who enjoyed teaching students the importance of keen observation and analytical thinking in scientific work.

During his service at MTSU, Dr. Blum contributed to the department in numerous ways. He served as chair of the master's comprehensive examination committee, he was involved in local programs to popularize botany as an avocation, he introduced new courses in taxonomic concepts and dendrology, he taught summer courses at the Tech Aqua Biological Station (Center Hill Reservoir), and conducted numerous environmental impact studies and collected plant materials in Central America for the USDA.

In placing his work into context, Blum noted that every plant is a sophisticated molecule factory whose products are often discovered at some later point to have important applications. This fact, he said, can be used as a powerful argument for the need for conservation and species preservation.