

## **Golden Key Fellowship awarded to MSU faculty members**

by Kayla MacAllister, QEP Publicity Intern

Murray State University's Quality Enhancement Plan awarded four Golden Key Fellowships to faculty and staff. The QEP – titled Bring Learning to Life – was developed to improve experiential learning experiences through which students apply learned principles such as problem-solving, critical and creative thinking, and information literacy to a real-world setting. Bring Learning to Life was developed in accordance with the University's mission of focusing on student learning outcomes and the environment supporting student learning.

The Golden Key Fellowship Program is an important part of Bringing Learning to Life, as it allows the opportunity for faculty and staff to attend additional training in experiential education and then share their new knowledge with students, faculty, and staff across campus through integration into course curricula, presentations, and workshops.

One Golden Key Fellowship was awarded to Christian Cruce, Director of Scholarships. Cruce plans to train students in financial literacy with the intent of creating a campus-wide, student-developed program of financial planning and education in order to retain student enrollment, decrease loan default rates, and allow students to graduate with less debt.

Rory Goggins, Associate Professor of Philosophy, will use his fellowship award to develop student internships with the intent of establishing a program in which all philosophy majors complete internships prior to graduation.

Golden Key Fellow Elizabeth Price, Research and Instruction Librarian, will attend the conference "Extending Our Reach: The Inaugural Colloquium on Academic Libraries & Service Learning" at Santa Clara University, where she will view presentations on service learning with the intent of developing experience-rich activities in study abroad courses and information studies curricula.

The final Golden Key Fellowship was awarded to Ben Ashburn, Lecturer in the Jesse D. Jones College of Science, Engineering and Technology. Ashburn will develop what he calls a "hands-on, real-world application" of engineering technology for student learning, including possibly implementing technology-assisted teaching into his courses. In addition, he intends to develop a faculty library and resource center in the Department of Industrial and Engineering Technology for instructor and student use.

Golden Key Fellowships will again be awarded by the QEP this semester; the deadline for applications is April 15. Additional information is available at [www.murraystate.edu/qep](http://www.murraystate.edu/qep).



*Pictured left to right are Elizabeth Price, Christian Cruce, Rory Goggins, Ben Ashburn.  
Photo by Landon Gibbs, QEP Photography Intern*