

## STCC professor lauded for supporting technical education

Springfield Technical Community College President John B. Cook has honored professor Gary Mullett, of West Springfield, for his "contribution to technical education at Springfield Technical Community College and worldwide."

He was presented with a plaque that included a letter addressed to President Cook thanking professor Mullett for his work as a program evaluator for ABET, the global accreditor of college and university programs in applied and natural science, computing, engineering and engineering technology. The letter was signed by ABET Executive Director and CEO Michael K.J. Milligan.

"It is very much a surprise to me," professor Mullett said with a smile, after accepting the plaque. He has been working for ABET for about 20 years.

President Cook thanked professor Mullett for his many years of dedicated service and presented the plaque during a meeting with his colleagues at STCC.

"Although professor Mullett is exceedingly humble, we simply could not help but appreciate and tout his tremendous contributions to engineering education," President Cook said.

"Gary has been an asset to STCC and the engineering technologies division for many years," said Adrienne Smith, dean of the School of Engineering Technologies and Mathematics. "He has been instrumental in obtaining numerous grant awards and establishing relationships with sister colleges and universities. Gary's affiliation with ABET has also been a huge contributor to the process of receiving ABET accreditation for four of our engineering technology programs. We are very proud of professor Mullett and thrilled to see him receive this much deserved recognition."

Described in the letter as an "ABET expert," professor Mullett assists ABET in reviewing more than 3,800 programs at more than 700 institutions in 31 countries. He also takes part in regular training to ensure his knowledge meets ABET standards.

Professor Mullett, a department co-chair for electronic systems engineering technology, said he has traveled worldwide on behalf of ABET.

"They sent me to Saudi Arabia, Peru and, this last time, Mongolia," he said.

In his role at ABET, he evaluates educational programs against accreditation criteria. He reviews course materials, student transcripts and interviews faculty, staff and students, among other responsibilities.

In the letter, which is preserved on the plaque, Mr. Milligan stated: "It gives me great pleasure to share with you the significant contribution that Gary Mullett has made to our organization and to technical education worldwide. ... Please join me in thanking Gary for his commitment to enhancing the educational experience of students worldwide. On behalf of the ABET Board of Directors, I would also like to thank you and your organization for your continued support of Gary's accreditation activities."



STCC President John B. Cook, left, professor Gary Mullett of West Springfield, and Adrienne Smith, dean of the School of Engineering Technologies and Mathematics. Professor Mullett was recently cited for his work on behalf of accrediting technical programs at colleges and universities worldwide.