

## **ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE BIOLOGY PROFESSOR NOMINATED FOR 2004 PIPER AWARD**

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**SAN ANTONIO (April 14, 2004)** – Dr. Paul B. Martin, Ph.D., assistant professor of Biology-Natural Sciences, has been selected as the St. Philip's College nominee for a 2004 Piper Professor Award. With the nomination, Martin joins a select group of professors from across Texas who will be considered for the prestigious Piper Professor Award presented by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation. Fifteen awards of \$5,000 each are made annually to professors for superior teaching at the college level through the Piper Professor Program.

Begun in 1958, with eight awards, the roster of Piper Professors includes outstanding professors from two and four-year colleges and universities, both public and private. Participation is by invitation only and, to be eligible, candidates must be nominated through the college/university President's Office. The official announcement of awards will be made in May 2004.

Martin, who has been teaching at St. Philip's College for 14 years, currently teaches courses on the principles of biology and environmental science. He is a conservationist at heart and a scientist by training, holding bachelor's and master's degrees in Entomology from Texas A&M University and a Ph.D. in the same subject from the University of Florida. Last year, Martin and two of his students spent the summer exploring critical environmental issues through a ten-week fellowship program studying elements affecting the environmental sustainability of communities at the U.S. Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) in Richland, Washington.

Martin considers himself a student of life and says that teaching is a humbling-yet-stimulating experience. "My hopes are to humbly work with others toward: better understanding of the principles of ecology, learning to strategically plan and holistically make decisions, and conserving and developing sustainable communities," he said.

In addition to his tenure at St. Philip's, Martin has taught at the high school level, and conducted research at the University of Georgia (Tifton, Ga.) and in Brazil. He's also worked as an entomologist for the Texas Department of Agriculture and as an agricultural consultant throughout Texas. He is a member of Alpha Zeta Agricultural Honor Society, the International Organization for Biological Control, Who's Who Among America's Teachers, Who's Who In Science and Engineering, the Southwestern Entomological Society and numerous other organizations committed to the holistic and ecological preservation of sustainable communities.

St. Philip's College, one of the Alamo Community Colleges serving the greater Bexar County region, is a comprehensive community college designated as both a Historically Black College and a Hispanic Serving Institution. St. Philip's College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.