FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Columbus State English Professor Wins Top Board of Regents Award

COLUMBUS, Ga. —Susan Hrach, an associate professor of English at Columbus State University, has been notified that she’s the sole recipient of the 2012-2013 University System of Georgia Regents’ Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Award.

Annually, the USG’s Board of Regents considers nominations to recognize faculty from the 35 state colleges and universities they oversee for their work in teaching and as advocates of learning.

“I am really proud to represent CSU because of the culture of teaching that exists here,” said Hrach, who joined CSU’s faculty in 1999. “I am nurtured all the time by my colleagues, who are themselves excellent teachers.”

The USG award letter to Hrach said the selection committee was unanimous in its selection and told her, “The committee was most impressed by the strong letters of support that accompanied your portfolio. Your ability to use your discipline content as a means to teach critical thinking, and analysis skills, was clearly demonstrated through your pedagogical approach. Your ability to accurately assess a student’s culture shock prior to travel and then ask them to address those issues prior to travel was a most innovative technique.”

Hrach, a Marietta, Ga., native began teaching at CSU after finishing a Ph.D. in English at the University of Washington in Seattle. She earned an M.A. in English from the University of Alabama and a B.A. from the University of Notre Dame, where she studied German and spent a year abroad at the Universität Innsbruck in Austria.

Her research interests include Renaissance women writers, manuscript texts and translation studies. The courses she teaches most often are World Literature and Renaissance Literature, including Shakespeare. She recently returned from teaching a Columbus State course in Italy this summer. She’s also taught and conducted research several times as part of the CSU study abroad program affiliated with the university’s Spencer house in Oxford, England.

She recently was named director of CSU’s Faculty Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning, which coordinates fellowships, workshops, book discussion groups and other faculty resources.