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For Immediate Release

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**EKU's Center for Economic Education's Director Dr. Cynthia Harter
Receives \$15,000 Grant to Conduct Teacher Training and a \$21,787
Grant with Dr. John Harter to Conduct Financial Literacy Research**

*Drs. Cynthia and John Harter Also Present Research at National
Conferences*

Louisville, Kentucky – The Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) Center for Economic Education, one of seven university-based Centers for Economic Education affiliated with and supported by the Kentucky Council on Economic Education (KCEE), is pleased to announce that its Center Director, Dr. Cynthia Harter, in collaboration with KCEE, was awarded an Excellence in Economic Education grant from the National Council on Economic Education (NCEE) in the amount of \$15,000 to conduct a teacher training program entitled “Economics Extravaganza—Something for Everyone!” for teachers in grades K-12. This program will be held at EKU's Model Laboratory School on July 17-18, 2007.

In addition, Drs. Cynthia and John Harter, in collaboration with KCEE, were awarded an Excellence in Economic Education grant from NCEE in the amount of \$21,787.50 to conduct a research program entitled “Is Financial Literacy Improved by Participating in a Stock Market Game?” High schools in the ECU area will be randomly selected and invited to participate in this program.

Drs. Cynthia and John Harter also presented a paper entitled “Assessing the Effectiveness of *Financial Fitness for Life* in Eastern Kentucky” at the fall 2006 NCEE Conference in New York and also at the January 2007 American Economic Association Conference in Chicago. This paper was a result of research conducted as part of an Excellence in Economic Education grant. The authors found that using the NCEE’s *Financial Fitness for Life* curriculum did improve students’ financial literacy.

“We are pleased that our results confirm that using the NCEE curriculum, *Financial Fitness for Life*, does improve students’ financial literacy,” says Dr. Cynthia Harter. “Funding to conduct more research in this area allows us to continue empirical investigation into whether the materials and methodologies we are teaching our teachers do work. We are appreciative of funding from both NCEE and KCEE to support this work.”

KCEE's Centers for Economic Education provide consulting support to schools, offering workshops for teachers to give them the confidence and competence to teach economics, personal finance, and entrepreneurship at all grade levels.

About the Kentucky Council on Economic Education

The Kentucky Council on Economic Education, a 501 © (3) nonprofit, is an affiliate member of the National Council on Economic Education, a nationwide network that leads in promoting economic literacy with students and their teachers. KCEE's mission is to champion the teaching and learning of economics with academic integrity, responsiveness and creativity. During its 33-year history as the leader in economic education in Kentucky, KCEE-engaged economic educators have ensured the delivery of economics and financial literacy to more than one million Kentucky students. KCEE is the only organization in Kentucky that promotes economic literacy by engaging teachers to teach the fourth “R” – real life economics. For more information about KCEE programs and services, visit www.econ.org or call Jan Mester, President, at 1-800 – I – DO - ECON.

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