KWLA honors Guerwane as Outstanding Arabic Teacher

Lhousseine Guerwane, instructor of Arabic in WKU’s Department of Modern Languages, was recognized as the 2021 Outstanding Arabic Teacher by the Kentucky World Languages Association.

“This award really goes to my students here at WKU,” Guerwane said. “Honestly, they are the ones who push me to joyfully work harder in and outside of classes. They all want to learn as much as they can about the Arabic language and its cultures. Also, they want to be active and involved. Because of that interest, we have created many venues for them to satisfy their interests, such as the Arabic Debate Club, Arabic Club, Arabic Honors Society, and Arab Model League.”

Guerwane coaches WKU and Gatton Academy students who participate in QatarDebate competitions. This year’s team is preparing for competition next month in Chicago.

In addition, Guerwane offers intensive beginning Arabic for middle and high school students through The Center for Gifted Studies VAMPY Summer Program.

Guerwane also was among the candidates for the KWLA Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award, which was presented in September during the KWLA Fall Virtual Conference.

Lhousseine Guerwane has experience teaching several languages at different levels, both here and abroad. Earlier in his career, he taught English in his home country of Morocco, and in Spain. He later taught Arabic, French, and Spanish at the middle and high school levels in Kentucky. Currently, he is Instructor of Arabic in the Arabic Program at Western Kentucky University.

At WKU, Guerwane plays a key role in recruitment, retention, and in the offering of quality extracurricular programming for majors and non-majors. Mr. Guerwane is passionate about helping students learn about Arabic language and culture, and he aspires to help as many public schools as possible in the state of Kentucky to start Arabic programs. He is active in his state professional organization, the Kentucky World Languages Association, and currently serves as Conference Co-Cordinator.