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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GENERAL MILLS' PLANK

HONORED WITH DISTINGUISHED BUSINESS/INDUSTRY AWARD

Branson, Missouri – Thursday, November 6. The Missouri Community College Association honored Kirby Plank with the Distinguished Business/Industry Award at a ceremony in Branson today. Plank is the facilities maintenance manager at the General Mills plant in Joplin. He has been involved with Crowder's Advanced Manufacturing Technology Advisory Council since 2010, and has used Crowder training programs for plant employees. Under Plank's leadership, General Mills has also donated equipment and supplies to the college.

This year marked MCCA's fiftieth annual convention. Association members celebrated the milestone by hosting several former community college leaders at the convention, including Dr. Norman Myers, founding president of Ozarks Technical Community College; Dr. Don Shook, founding president of East Central College, St. Charles Community College, and St. Charles Community College; and Dr. Jim Kellerman, former MCCA executive director.

The Missouri Community College Association is a statewide organization through which Missouri's community colleges work together to advance common agendas. MCCA provides advocacy, education, information, and networking opportunities in service of the state's 5,700 community college faculty, staff, administrators, and trustees.

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Photo of Bridget Yust, Human Resources at General Mills, accepting on behalf of Kirby Plank and Andy Wood, Crowder College Board of Trustee President.