

Three New Honors Raise AU Professor's Profile

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Alfred, NY -- Larry Greil, professor of sociology and health policy and head of the Division of Social Sciences at Alfred University, has received three pieces of good news this winter. First, he was notified that he'll be included in the 2001 edition of Who's Who in America, the nation's best-known biographical directory. Published by Marquis since 1899, Who's Who appears annually and includes people from a wide variety of fields, including politics, business, medicine, law, education, art, science, and entertainment. Second, Greil had an article on "Secular Religions" accepted for inclusion in the new edition of the International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences. The term "secular religions" can be used to describe ideologies, activities, and other enterprises that appear to be secular but share common features with religious enterprises, Greil explains in an abstract of his long article. Examples include Marxism, nationalism, environmentalism, sports, self-help groups, voluntary associations, and some businesses. Third, Greil was appointed Executive Officer of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, an interdisciplinary group founded in 1949 to advance the scientific study of religion. (Information about the Society can be found on the Web at <http://fhss.byu.edu/soc/s...> has taught at AU since 1977, when he joined the faculty as a sociology instructor.