Professor Joseph Clyde Murley was a member of the Department of Classical Languages at Northwestern from 1921 to 1957.

PhD Chicago 1920 Assistant Professor 1921–1925 Associate Professor 1925–1951 Professor 1951–1955 Emeritus 1955–57

He wrote: The cults of Cisalpine Gaul as seen in the inscriptions (1920 University of Chicago Dissertation) Menasha, Wis.: G. Banta, 1922.

He also published a translation of Hutchins, Randall, 1567?-1603. Tractatus de spectris. Randall Hutchins Of specters (ca. 1593) San Marino, Ca.: Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery, 1948.

Professor Murley died April 16, 1957.

The memorial gift to establish an endowment fund for the Murley Prizes was received February 26, 1959. Murley's two sons and two daughters provided the impetus for the establishment of the fund "in his name."

The principal is specified "to be invested and reinvested" and income to be used "in the interest of furthering work in the humanities . . . to which our father was so devoted."