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## Biology, English Majors Capture Top 2009 Student Life Awards

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## Biology, English Majors Capture Top 2009 Student Life Awards

### Quick Facts

- Rhine Gourrier, an English major from Columbia, took the Mary Mildred Sullivan Award.
- Biology major Glenn Edward Spurlin III of Rock Hill won the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award.



*Glenn Spurlin III and Rhine Gourrier*

ROCK HILL, S.C. - English major **Rhine Gourrier** and **Glenn Edward Spurlin III**, a biology major, captured top honors at Winthrop University's 2009 Student Life Awards Ceremony held April 9 in the Tuttle Dining Room. Frank Ardaiole, vice president for student life, presented the awards.

**Gourrier** won the **Mary Mildred Sullivan Award**, and **Spurlin** took the **Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award**. Presented annually, both awards honor graduating students who have an outstanding record of service to the university. Gourrier of Columbia, S.C., has prepared meals for the homeless, mentored teen-age girls, including at-risk teen-age girls, and worked with local schools.



*Janet Ownley*

A native of Rock Hill, Spurlin has been involved with Alternative Spring Break and Pilgrims' Inn for four years, held a number of leadership roles at Winthrop and worked with the university's intramural sports programs.

**Janet Ownley** and **Zachary Blum** won this year's **American Legion Awards**, which are presented annually to graduating students who display outstanding courage, companionship, character, service and scholarship. **Ownley** of Hartsville, S.C., is a business administration

major who is a member of Omicron Delta Kappa, Beta Gamma Sigma and the AACSB Business Honor Society. She has taken on leadership roles with the College Republicans, Cooperative Student Fellowship and orientation and peer mentor programs. Ownley has served as a volunteer in Toronto, Spain and North Africa, and locally she has volunteered at Second Harvest and Crop Walk. Ownley also won the **Holly Self Drummond Award**, presented to a female student with a good academic record and a strong commitment to volunteerism.

**Blum**, a political science major from Lancaster, S.C., has volunteered to help children who are financially or physically challenged, raised money for numerous worthy causes, tutored fourth graders and worked with Habitat for Humanity for nine years.

**Delta Sigma Theta Sorority**, **Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE)** and the **Winthrop Wesley Foundation** met the criteria for the **President's Volunteer Service Award**, a national award given by the President of the United States to honor individuals, families and groups who have demonstrated a strong commitment to volunteer service over the course of 12 months. Through the "Delta GEMS" program, a mentoring program from young girls in elementary school to high school, **Delta Sigma Theta** contributed more than 350 hours of community service and took the bronze award. **SIFE** earned the gold award for contributing more than the 1,000 minimum hours required for the award. Through SIFE, students across campus and in classrooms contributed a variety of service activities aimed at solving community problems. Some of the projects included the Web site development for Park Avenue Adult Day Care, projects to raise awareness of fuel consumption, a

needs assessment for the Clover Area Assistance Center and additional programs in financial literacy, ethics and team building. The **Winthrop Wesley Foundation** also received the gold award, logging more than 1,223 community service hours in 2008. Foundation members volunteered for a variety of service projects including Crop Walk, Homeless Sleep Out and the Oxfam fast.

Additional awards presented included:

- The **Serving Others and Reflecting Award (SOAR) Award**: Tonya Gregg, a junior business administration major from Florence, S.C.
- The **Student Safety Award**: Betsy Jenkins, a resident adviser (RA) and sophomore social work major from Chapin, S.C.
- **Intern of the Year**: York, S.C., native Lorelei Freer, a senior accounting and finance major
- **Multicultural Student Life Awards**: Leah Diaz of Chicago, Ill., a senior Integrated Marketing Communication major, and Linda Atiase, a senior political science/French major from Ghana, West Africa

Carol Marchel, associate professor of education, received the 2009 **Combining Service and Learning Faculty Award**. Marchel has developed an extensive service learning component to all sections of EDUCATION 210: Psychology of the Learner.

Nancy Nelms, who works in the Division of Student Life, won the **Fred Angerman Quality Staff Award**. The award is given to a full-time Student Life staff member who significantly contributes to the quality improvement of The Winthrop Experience. Live. Learn. Lead. Nelms has worked in Winthrop University dining for 16 years and works in catering and booking.

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