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Joe Prus Named NASP 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient

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Joe Prus Named NASP 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient

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Prus received the award at the association's recent national conference in Orlando, which was also attended by Winthrop faculty members Gary Alderman, Leigh Armistead, Antigo Martin-Delaney and Melissa Reeves, along with some Winthrop school psychology students and alumni. Reeves was recently elected NASP president for 2016-17.



BETHESDA, MARYLAND – The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) recently honored Winthrop University Psychology Professor Joe Prus as its **2015** Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient.

The association, which represents 25,000 school psychologists throughout the United States and abroad, established the award in 1999 to recognize those who have contributed to the profession of school psychology in a significant and lasting manner. **Prus** is the **16th recipient** of this award, and his contributions have been called "prodigious, outstanding and enduring."

Joe Prus

Prus received the award at the association's recent national conference in Orlando, which was also attended by Winthrop faculty membersGary Alderman, Leigh Armistead, Antigo Martin-Delaney and Melissa Reeves, along with some Winthrop school psychology students and alumni. Reeves was recently elected NASP president for 2016-17.

Prus joined the Winthrop faculty in 1980 and currently serves as director of the school psychology program and chair of the Department of Psychology.

Over the course of his career, Prus has been instrumental in the association's efforts to foster and implement standards for the graduate preparation, professional training and practice, and credentialing of school psychologists.

These standards have shaped the current and future direction of the profession. As **NASP President Stephen E. Brock** said, "Dr. Prus represents the true essence of this award. In fact, I think it is safe to say that almost no one has helped shape the quality of training of school psychologists, and as a result, the quality of the profession, more than Dr. Prus."

At both the state and national levels, Prus has served as a leader and advocate for the profession of school psychology in both psychological and educational associations. His service to NASP spans 25 years and includes roles on committees, task forces and workgroups at all levels.

One colleague said Prus brings passion, deep-rooted historical knowledge of the organization, and commitment to continuously improving upon best practices and policies. He also has twice chaired the **National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education Executive Board**.

At Winthrop, Prus has directly shaped the careers of hundreds of school psychologists both as a mentor and trainer, and then shared his expertise through numerous presentations at the national and international levels. He served as a consultant for more than 30 years to various schools, universities, educational and mental health agencies, and professionals, research corporations and

publishing companies. He has contributed substantially to the research base and disseminated this knowledge through dozens of publications.

Among his many other accolades, Prus has been recognized with awards from Winthrop, the Trainers in School Psychology, the South Carolina Association of School Psychologists, and has received the NASP Presidential Award for Exceptional Service to Children and NASP seven times.

For more information, contact **Judy Longshaw**, Winthrop news and media services manager, at longshawj@winthrop.edu or call 803/323-2404.

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