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Winthrop Alumnus Named 2009-10 S.C. Teacher of the Year

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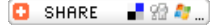
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Quick Facts

- Northwestern High School teacher Bryan Coburn '88 is the 2009-10 S.C. Teacher of the Year.
- A 19-year teacher, Coburn earned his M.A.T. at Winthrop.



Bryan Coburn

ROCK HILL, S.C. - **Bryan Coburn** '88, a pre-engineering, computer programming and business teacher at Northwestern High School in Rock Hill, has been chosen the **2009-10 South Carolina Teacher of the Year**.

State Superintendent of Education Jim Rex announced Coburn's receipt of the state's highest education honor at a banquet in Columbia, S.C., Monday honoring the state's 84 district teachers of the year. Coburn, a Rock Hill resident and 19-year educator, received his M.A.T. at Winthrop University.

Over the next year, **Coburn** will travel the state acting as an ambassador for teachers. He will serve as the chairperson on the **State Teacher Forum**; speak to teachers, Teacher Cadets and prospective teachers at colleges and universities; attend workshops and seminars on education, economy, teaching and leadership; and assist the **Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement (CERRA)**, housed at Winthrop, to help with teacher mentoring, training, recruitment and the South Carolina Teaching Fellows program. In addition, he will participate in **Leadership South Carolina**, attend Notre Dame's prestigious three-day Excellence in Teaching Symposium and receive a SMART board.

Coburn said he looks forward to "acting as the voice" of South Carolina's teachers and talking to future educators about the challenges and joys of a career in teaching. He credits Winthrop's M.A.T. program with helping him discover his own passion to teach.

"We all have certain talents but how those talents are fashioned does make a difference. I was a messy lump of clay that was molded at Winthrop," he said.

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