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Pinnacle Awards Recognize Contributions of Alumni and Area Business Leaders

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Pinnacle Awards Recognize Contributions of Alumni and Area Business Leaders

Quick Facts

- Larry Durham '80, '87, Mike Forrest '98, Bob Breakfield, Bob Thompson and Larry Carroll were honored during the 6 p.m. event in the DiGiorgio Campus Center Ballroom.
- The Pinnacle Awards are held biennially.



Dean Roger Weikle, from left, Mike Forrest, Larry Durham, Larry Carroll, Bob Thompson, Bob Breakfield and President Anthony DiGiorgio

ROCK HILL, S.C. - The College of Business Administration thanked five alumni and business leaders on April 21 at the Pinnacle Awards for their contributions to the university and the community.

Larry Durham '80, '87, Mike Forrest '98, Bob Breakfield, Bob Thompson and Larry Carroll were honored during the event in the DiGiorgio Campus Center Ballroom. The Pinnacle Awards are held

biennially.

Learn more about the honorees:

Distinguished Alumni Award: Larry Durham Sr. is the owner of Larry Durham-State Farm Insurance in Lancaster, S.C. A former Winthrop Board of Trustees member and former board member of the S.C. Commission for Higher Education, he has spent more than a decade involved in civic and community work. He has served in leadership positions with numerous organizations in Lancaster County and the state of South Carolina.

Distinguished Alumni Award: Mike Forrest is retired general manager of AbitibiBowater, Catawba Plant. He completed the Executive M.B.A. program at Winthrop in 1998. A Clemson University graduate in engineering, Forrest has spent 38 years heading up divisions at the Catawba plant and working in all aspects of operations and engineering.

Advocate to the College Award: Bob Breakfield is a local attorney and retired Winthrop professor of law. Breakfield has been active with local foundation boards, non-profits and civic groups. As a member of the Winthrop University Planned Giving Council, he has been an active supporter of scholarships for business students and others within the university.

Summit Award for Education: Bob Thompson retired as a vice president of Springs Industries. He has served in many national, state and local efforts dealing with education reform such as those of the Business Roundtable and the Commission on Education Quality of the Southern Regional Education Board. In South Carolina, some of his activities have included working toward the 1984 Education Improvement Act, the 1989 Target 2000 Act and the 1996 reform of the state commission on Higher Education. He recently completed two terms on the board of the S.C. Council on Economic Education. In 2008, Thompson completed his eighth and final year on the board of the S.C. Technical College System. He was elected in 2008 by the S.C. Legislature to a new 6-year term on Winthrop's Board of Trustees, having previously served 13 years, three as chair of the board of trustees.

Tower Award for Business Leadership: Larry Carroll is one of the most successful business leaders in the region. Carroll has received numerous honors and recognition throughout his financial planning career. Carroll has presented a Market Outlook for the local business community for the last two years in Carroll Hall. He has invested personally in Winthrop and the College of Business Administration, providing funding for the Vivian Moore Carroll Hall, named after his wife, and the Carroll Capital Markets Trading and Training Center.

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