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Three Faculty Members Cited for Their Excellence and Dedication

Winthrop University

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Three Faculty Members Cited for Their Excellence and Dedication

Quick Facts

- Laura Dufresne, a professor in the Department of Fine Arts within the College of Visual and Performing Arts, has been selected as the 2014 Distinguished Professor of the Year.
- Nicholas E. Grossoehme, an assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry, Physics and Geology, is the 2014 Outstanding Junior Professor of the Year.
- Associate Professor of Social Work Sue Lyman will receive the 2014 Jane LaRoche Graduate Faculty Award.



Laura Dufresne

ROCK HILL, S.C. – Three faculty members known for their teaching, scholarship and mentorship will be recognized during **May Commencement exercises** at Winthrop University.

Laura Dufresne, a professor in the **Department of Fine Arts** within the **College of Visual and Performing Arts**, has been selected as the **2014 Distinguished Professor of the Year**. **Nicholas E. Grossoehme**, an assistant professor in the **Department of Chemistry, Physics and Geology**, is the **2014 Outstanding Junior Professor of the Year**. Associate Professor of Social Work Sue Lyman will receive the **2014 Jane LaRoche Graduate Faculty Award**.



Nick Grossoehme

Winthrop will honor **Dufresne** and **Grossoehme** at the **undergraduate Commencement ceremony** on Saturday, May 10 at 11 a.m. at the **Winthrop Coliseum**. **Lyman** will be honored during the **graduate Commencement ceremony** on Thursday, May 8 at 7 p.m. at the Coliseum.

Laura Dufresne

Laura Dufresne will receive the **Distinguished Professor Award**, the highest honor the Winthrop community can bestow upon a faculty member.



Sue Lyman

Dufresne joined the Winthrop faculty in 1989. She has been a department leader in online course offerings and in establishing partnerships with agencies such as the **Mint Museum** in Charlotte, N.C., to help place art history students in key internships to expand their career options.

Her peers said that such topics as medieval manuscripts, the art of the book, iconography and women's studies have been a part of the department's vocabulary in large part due to Dufresne's perseverance and desire to create a rigorous, yet joyful academic environment where the study of art history can flourish. In 1991, she received a Fulbright to study in Czechoslovakia (now Slovakia and the Czech Republic).

Within the past five years, Dufresne has headed a revamping and re-sequencing of the art history curriculum and courses in a major effort to keep Winthrop's offerings relevant.

She recently completed the book "**The Fifteenth-Century Illustrations of Christine de Pizan's 'The Book of the City of Ladies' and 'The Treasure of the City of Ladies'"** which was published by **Edwin Mellen Press**. The research for this book was 24 years in the making.

Born in Los Angeles, California, Dufresne studied psychology at the University of California-Santa Cruz, later earning a specialist degree in gerontology at the University of Nebraska-Omaha. During her time in Nebraska, she worked with the elderly for Volunteer in Service to America. Dufresne earned her Ph.D. in art history at the University of Washington-Seattle, where she served as a teaching assistant as well as an intern at the Textile Collection of the Henry Art Gallery.

Nicholas E. Grosseohme

Nicholas E. Grosseohme of the Department of Chemistry, Physics and Geology is the **2014 Outstanding Junior Professor**, which recognizes assistant professors with a reputation for inspired teaching, research or creative excellence, and for dedication to the welfare of students.

Grosseohme is in his fourth year teaching chemistry and biochemistry, and has distinguished himself as an exceptionally charismatic and demanding instructor.

In teaching, Grosseohme has revamped the department's most advanced laboratory courses, its advanced biochemistry course sequence, its chemistry seminar program and general chemistry lectures. He has mentored 19 students on various projects, a third of whom have gone on to graduate programs.

In his research, Grosseohme was one of the nation's 46 young science faculty awarded a **Cottrell College science award** in 2011. He is regarded as an expert in the field of **isothermal titration calorimetry** and its application in understanding protein-metal interactions.

Grosseohme was awarded Winthrop's first **American Chemical Society SEED grant** last summer to support three promising high school students from low-income backgrounds to visit campus for eight weeks. A second grant has been approved for 2014, along with federal grants to continue Grosseohme's research interest in the identification and biophysical characterization of bacterial metal regulatory mechanisms.

He also mentors students in the three-week summer **Winthrop Initiative for STEM* Educators (WISE)** experience, along with four to six students in the department's own summer undergraduate research program.

Grosseohme earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry/biology from Midland Lutheran College and a Ph.D. in chemistry at Dartmouth College. He spent three years of post-doctoral research at Indiana University prior to joining the Winthrop faculty.

Sue Lyman

Sue Lyman, an associate professor in the **Department of Social Work** who is retiring, is the **2014 Jane LaRoche Graduate Faculty Award recipient**.

In her role as the department's graduate program director, Lyman has been instrumental in the rapid growth of the Master of Social Work degree program from 20 students to more than 100 students. She is an excellent recruiter who readily shepherds students with care and concern from their first day of orientation through graduation. Her contributions to the development of the department's self-studies resulted in the full reaccreditation of the **Master and Bachelor of Social Work programs** in 2013.

She is currently the primary investigator for a four-year **Paid Family Caregiver Project** funded by the **S.C. Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Long Term Care** through the Center for Social Welfare Research and Assessment. She has incorporated graduate students into the project and given them opportunities for research and to co-author reports.

A consummate student advocate, Lyman annually nominates Winthrop students for student-level social work awards. Of the eight graduate students she has recommended, six have received an **MSW Student of the Year award** by the **S.C. Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers**.

Lyman was named the **S.C. Social Worker of the Year** in 2013 and the recipient of the **David Boone Advisory Award** from the **Rock Hill Parks, Recreation and Tourism Division** in 2013. She earned an honors degree in psychology, an M.S.W. from Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia and a Ph.D. from Virginia Tech.

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

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