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Winthrop University

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ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA – The S.C. Psychological Association presented Winthrop University Professor Merry Sleigh its Kendra Ogletree Cusaac Outstanding Psychology Teacher of the Year Award at its recent conference in Myrtle Beach.

She joined the Winthrop faculty in 2003 and quickly established herself as an outstanding teacher who effectively teaches difficult material and inspires her students to engage in their learning through research.

In addition to her previous selection as Winthrop’s James Pinckney Kinard and Lee Wicker Kinard Award for Excellence in Teaching recipient in 2011, Sleigh has received numerous other awards, including: 2008 College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Advisor Award; 2010 Psi Chi Regional Faculty Advisor Award; 2011 Southeastern Psychological Association Mentor Award and 2011 Florence Denmark Psi Chi Faculty Award, given to one Psi Chi advisor nationally each year.

Sleigh received her doctorate in developmental psychology from Virginia Tech and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Indiana University. She directed the Psychology Honors Program at George Mason University prior to joining the faculty at Winthrop in 2003.

Sleigh regularly teaches Research Methods, Biopsychology and Learning, as well as special topics honors courses. Her research interests focus on neonatal development, and she is heavily involved in supporting undergraduate research. She has reviewed for and published in referred journals such as Teaching of Psychology, Developmental Psychobiology and Journal of Comparative Psychology.

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