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Sue Spencer won the Exemplary Service to the Teaching Profession Award from the South Carolina Association of Teacher Educators. Local teachers Jennifer Gaston and Adrian Deese won the Cooperating Teacher of the Year Awards.

ROCK HILL, S.C. — A Winthrop University Richard W. Riley College of Education faculty member and two P-12 colleagues were recently recognized by the South Carolina Association of Teacher Educators for their contributions to the education field.

Sue Spencer won the Exemplary Service to the Teaching Profession Award while local teachers Jennifer Gaston and Adrian Deese won the Cooperating Teacher of the Year Awards.

Spencer is an associate professor who specializes in the areas of metacognition, strategic instruction, collaborative teaming, at-risk students and learning disabilities. She holds a bachelor’s degree from Martha Berry College in behavioral science, a master’s degree and a doctorate in special education learning disabilities from the University of West Georgia and Georgia State University, respectively. She joined the Winthrop staff in 2001.

The exemplary service award is given to those who have shown “exceptional service to the education profession” through unique or extraordinary accomplishments, leadership in education at the local, state and national levels, and a focused public attention on improving and supporting education.

Jennifer Gaston is a second-grade teacher at Chester Park School of Inquiry in Chester, S.C., while Adrian Deese is a sixth-grade humanities teacher at South Middle School in Lancaster, S.C. Both are mentors for education students.