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Education Professor to Chair Middle School Association

Winthrop University
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ROCK HILL, S.C. - Barbara Blackburn, an assistant professor of education at Winthrop University, was recently elected president of the National Association of Professors of Middle Level Education (NAPOMLE).

As president, she will chair the board of directors, provide leadership during a two-year term to NAPOMLE, and coordinate a network of middle level education professors. She assumed her duties at the National Middle School Association Convention held in Minneapolis, Minn., Nov. 3-7, 2004.

"Preparing future middle school teachers is a specialized and critical aspect of teacher education," Blackburn said. "I am excited to collaborate with professors across the nation to provide support for colleges and universities that offer middle level education programs."

Blackburn teaches curriculum and instruction in the Richard W. Riley College of Education and is coordinator of the middle grades education program. She joined Winthrop in 2000 after earning her Ph.D. in curriculum and teaching at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She also taught middle school for five years in the Cleveland County Schools in Shelby, N.C.

Blackburn also is president of the South Carolina Professors of Middle Level Education Special Interest Group of the South Carolina Middle School Association.