

Gardner-Webb University

## Digital Commons @ Gardner-Webb University

---

Gardner-Webb NewsCenter Archive

Gardner-Webb Publications

---

5-20-2016

### **Gardner-Webb University School of Education Recognition Program Honors Educators**

Office of University Communications

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.gardner-webb.edu/gardner-webb-newscenter-archive>

---

# Gardner-Webb University School of Education Recognition Program Honors Educators

---

[webpublish.gardner-webb.edu/newscenter/gardner-webb-university-school-of-education-recognition-program-honors-educators/](http://webpublish.gardner-webb.edu/newscenter/gardner-webb-university-school-of-education-recognition-program-honors-educators/)

Office of University  
Communications

May 20, 2016

## *GWU to Induct Three New Members to University's Education Hall of Fame on June 23*

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – The 2nd annual induction ceremony for Gardner-Webb University's School of Education Hall of Fame is planned for June 23 at 6 p.m. in Tucker Student Center. Three new members will be inducted during the ceremony.

GWU School of Education Dean Dr. Doug Eury said nominees for the Hall of Fame are Gardner-Webb alumni and others who have distinguished themselves in the field of education as either a practitioner or benefactor locally, regionally or at the state and federal level. "The individuals recognized have each made a significant impact in both their field and in the community at large," Eury shared. "These folks are role models both personally and professionally."

The 2016 inductees are Walter Dalton (Rutherfordton, N.C.), Dr. Collette Deviney (Shelby, N.C.), and Richard "Stick" Williams (Charlotte, N.C.).

Walter Dalton of Rutherfordton, N.C., taught political science at Gardner-Webb University in 2013, after serving a term as the 33rd Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina from 2009-2013. As Lt. Governor, Dalton worked closely with small businesses and others to create a small business assistance fund, and he chaired the award winning JOBS Commission (Joining Our Businesses and Schools) to better align educational efforts with 21st Century workforce needs. He also chaired a task force that developed a comprehensive statewide plan to align people and goods in the coming decades. Dalton led the negotiation and implementation of the Early College High School initiative in N.C., one of the first in the nation. The Early College concept is viewed as one of the most innovative and transformative education models in many years. Prior to becoming Lt. Governor, Dalton served as a state senator for 12 years, during which he chaired the Education Committee and later the Appropriations Committee. While a senator, he was honored by Gardner-Webb University with an Honorary Doctor of Humanities degree. He currently serves as president of Isothermal Community College.

Dr. Collette Deviney of Shelby, N.C., is well known for loving and supporting her students, even after they leave the classroom. From providing anonymous Christmas presents for students in need, to saving the life of a student who no longer felt their worth, Deviney has built a career on going above and beyond to prove to students that they truly matter, and she often worked behind the scenes to help students and families in need. Following retirement, she has continued active involvement in community work. Through the annual event “Connect, Commit to Change,” she has brought hundreds of people together to serve children and families in Cleveland County. Her desire to help others is contagious and endearing. Deviney received *The Star’s* Spirit of Freedom award in 2012, and was awarded the Cleveland County Chamber’s Athena Award in 2015 for her support of the goals of professional women, demonstrating excellence in her profession and for providing valuable service to the community.

Richard “Stick” Williams of Charlotte, N.C., launched Project LIFT, a five-year effort to boost graduation rates in Charlotte-Mecklenburg schools, because he remembered the significance of influential people who left a positive mark on his life. He offers kids opportunities and experiences to set them up for future educational and career success. From mentoring individual students to providing financial support through the Duke Energy Foundation, Williams has been a steadfast advocate in promoting and transforming education in N.C. In 2008, he became the president of the Duke Energy Foundation, representing the company’s desire to build strong ties in the communities it serves. Williams’ passion and experiences shine within the foundation, and he has made a tremendous impact. He has served on the boards of N.C. Blumenthal Performing Arts Center, the YMCA of Greater Charlotte, Hope Haven, Communities in Schools of N.C., and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Foundation.

*Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University’s purpose is to advance the Kingdom of God through Christian higher education by preparing graduates for professional and personal success, instilling in them a deep commitment to service and leadership, and equipping them for well-rounded lives of lasting impact, Pro Deo et Humanitate (For God and Humanity).*