



**For Immediate Release
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**State and National School Psychologists Honor
Humboldt State University Professor**

Brent Duncan, Ph.D., professor and director of the school psychology program at Humboldt State University, was the recipient of the California Association of School Psychologist' (CASP) Sandra Goff Memorial Award – the association's school psychologist of the year award – for his outstanding contributions and distinguished service to the profession of school psychology.

Duncan will also be honored by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) with its Government and Professional Relations Committee's President's Award, during its annual convention to be held March 27-April 1 in Anaheim. This national award is presented to those who show exemplary service to students, schools and school psychology.

The state award was presented at CASP Convention 2006, held February 16-18 in Monterey. Established in 1980 and named for CASP's first executive director, the award recognizes distinguished service, long-term contributions to school psychology in a variety of settings, and efforts that produce an impact beyond district boundaries, throughout California and the nation.

Duncan has devoted his professional life to school psychology, according to his colleagues. As president of CASP during the 2002-03 year, he proved to be a calm, proactive and supportive leader as school districts dealt with severe budget cuts and federal legislation that would bring change to the roles of school psychologists began its legislative journey. A member of the CASP Board for 11 years, he has been an active member of the California School Psychology Foundation, CASP's Legislative Committee, and CASP's Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act workgroup. He has traveled to Washington, D.C., and as a member of NASP's Government and Professional Relations Committee, has meet with congressional members and their staffs to explain the roles of school psychologists in the public schools system and how they assist students with learning, emotional and behavior difficulties, as well as advise school staff to assure that all children have safe school environments. It was because of his activities of this work that CASP nominated Duncan for the prestigious NASP President's Award.

Duncan has also guided the school psychology program at HSU as it received national accreditation and has adapted and embraced the changing role of the school psychologist and the changing system of special education. Prior to taking a professorship at Humboldt State, Duncan worked as a school psychologist in the Vallejo City Unified School District and as a special education teacher at Tamalpais Union High School District in Larkspur. In addition to teaching at HSU, Duncan served as a school psychologist for two schools in the Arcata Elementary School District and in the Hoopa Valley area for the Humboldt County Office of Education. He is a former lecturer and supervisor at the School of Education at the University of California at Berkeley and is a frequent presenter at CASP events and for CASP affiliates.

The California Association of School Psychologists, with more than 3,000 members, is the largest state association of school psychologists in the nation. For more than 50 years, CASP has advocated on behalf of all of California's students. School psychologists offer student assessments, classroom management, program development for at-risk students and many other services to schools and their communities.

NOTE: A photo of Dr. Duncan is available by email. Call the number above or email Heidi Holmblad at communications@casponline.org.