

Excellence in and out of the classroom

Dr. Mike Schraeder wins University's Wallace D. Malone Distinguished Faculty Award



Dr. Mike Schraeder, left, discusses coursework with senior Rodney Presley.

As an elementary school teacher in Loveland, CO, Mike Schraeder never dreamed of becoming a college professor. Several years and three degrees later, Schraeder now regularly receives glowing evaluations from his students at Troy University.

Schraeder, who holds a doctorate in management as well as master's degrees in management and business administration, has served as an assistant professor of management in the University's Sorrell College of Business on the

Montgomery Campus since 2003. On Aug. 14, he was honored with the Wallace D. Malone Distinguished Faculty Award during the University's annual Faculty Convocation.

Designed to recognize those who have exhibited excellence through outstanding teaching, public service, publications and research, the Wallace D. Malone Award is presented annually to a full-time TROY faculty member. Recipients are first nominated by their deans, department chairs or their peers

and then selected by an award committee for the honor.

Full-time faculty members from any TROY campus or site are eligible for the award, which consists of a trophy, a \$1,500 cash prize and a medallion to be worn with academic regalia. The award is made possible through a \$100,000 endowment by the SouthTrust Corporation. Wallace Malone, former chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of SouthTrust, served as a TROY trustee from 1975-1995.

Professor exhibits gratitude for troops through act of kindness

By Amanda DePriest

It was the address on the package that caught a Troy University professor's eye: New Al Muthana Air Base, Iraq.

Dr. Mike Schraeder, an assistant professor of management, knew it was headed for one of the nation's fighting men and women in harm's way.

Holding the package, Michele Popwell was just ahead of Schraeder in line at the Mt. Meigs post office. Schraeder struck up a conversation, learning that the package was headed to Popwell's friend, U.S. Air Force Technical Sergeant Shan Hinkle, who is serving a year-long deployment in Iraq.

Schraeder said he wanted to thank Popwell for what Hinkle was doing to serve the country, so as a token of

gratitude, Schraeder paid the postage on the package. The only problem was that Popwell didn't know Schraeder's last name – only "Mike" and that he worked for TROY.

Popwell, an emergency room registered nurse, said it was a bit shocking when Schraeder offered to pay for her packages.

"It seems people have lost sight of what is being fought for over there and for him, a total stranger, who stepped up the way he did, it really blew me away and makes everything worth it," said Popwell.

She couldn't let the good deed go unmentioned, so she started her quest to learn just who Mike was. Popwell contacted Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr., relaying the story.

"This message is an inspiring act of extraordinary generosity," said Dr.

Hawkins, who vowed he would find the generous employee. The search took several days.

Schraeder said he wasn't looking for any recognition, just a little peace of mind knowing that he was supporting America's war efforts.

"It was truly intended to be an anonymous act of gratitude," Schraeder said, adding that he is grateful for these sacrifices and would like this to be a platform to express appreciation to these individuals. "We often get so engrossed in our lives that we don't stop and think those in the military are fighting for us so we can enjoy our everyday lifestyles and liberties."

DePriest, a senior print journalism and public relations major from Dothan, is a Workstudy student in the office of University Relations.