

APPENDIX B



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Appalachian State University professor wins 2025 Governor James E. Holshouser, Jr. Award

Dr. John Paul Jameson honored for excellence in public service

RALEIGH, N.C. – Dr. JP Jameson of Appalachian State University is a winner of the 2025 Governor James E. Holshouser, Jr. Award for Excellence in Public Service.

The award recognizes faculty who exemplify the UNC System’s commitment to service and community engagement. He received the honor Thursday from the University of North Carolina Board of Governors.

A professor of psychology, Jameson has built access to mental health services in rural schools in Alleghany and Ashe counties, providing evidence-based assessment, therapy and crisis services for children and families. His school-based clinics have served hundreds of students since they were established.



Jameson also led community-based efforts to prevent firearm suicides in rural areas, especially in youth populations – efforts that have gained state and national attention.

In nominating Jameson for the award, App State Chancellor Heather Norris said: “For more than a decade, his work has not merely benefited a local area; it has profoundly impacted the landscape of mental health access and crisis prevention across the entire northwestern region of North Carolina...His deep commitment to the people of rural Appalachia is evident in every initiative he undertakes.”

Jameson’s sustainable, data-driven mental health programs and crisis prevention strategies have been recognized with research grants and faculty awards at App State. He has been praised for his willingness to personally care for his community, including during Hurricane Helene, when he used his Ram 1500 pickup truck to deliver food and supplies in Ashe County immediately after the storm, then worked evenings and weekends for months at a large donation drop center.

“Dr. Jameson embodies the spirit of the Holshouser Award, putting service at the center of his commitment to our university and our people,” said University of North Carolina System President Peter Hans. “He has improved the quality of mental health care for his fellow citizens in northwestern North Carolina, while inspiring his students to take up the mission of service.”

“Dr. Jameson has a heart for service, and we couldn’t be prouder to honor him today,” said Board of Governors Chair Wendy Murphy. “His work has had an impact on children and young people across the mountain region, and we are thankful for his dedication.”

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About the UNC System

The University of North Carolina System enrolls 256,000 students at 17 institutions, including the state's 16 public universities and the nation's first public residential high school for academically gifted students. The UNC System is among the strongest and most diverse higher education systems in the country, with \$2.2 billion in research expenditures and campuses that serve every region of North Carolina. Affiliate organizations include PBS North Carolina, with 12 public television stations across the state, and UNC Health, with 19 hospital campuses and an extensive healthcare network.