

Distinguished Achievement Citation

W. Joseph Campbell, Ph.D.

Class of 1974

With this presentation of Ohio Wesleyan's Distinguished Achievement Citation, the Ohio Wesleyan University Alumni Association Board of Directors is honored and privileged to recognize W. Joseph Campbell as an exemplary journalist and teacher.

Majoring in journalism and history, Joe was a member of Phi Gamma Delta and the "W" Association and was elected to Omicron Delta Kappa national leadership honorary. Perhaps as a portent of things to come, the faculty chose him as the top journalism student in the 1974 graduating class. His later education included French-language and European journalism studies at the Université de Fribourg, Switzerland. He received his Ph.D. in Mass Communication from the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1997. Immediately thereafter, he joined the American University faculty and is a full tenured professor at the university's School of Communication. In 2006, he was honored as American University's Faculty Member of the Year, and his service to the university has been exemplary.

Six days after his graduation from Ohio Wesleyan, Joe was a working journalist at *The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer*, covering the police beat from 6 p.m. to 3 a.m. It was the start of an illustrious and award-winning 20-year career during which he reported from four continents as a newspaper and wire service journalist.

Since his arrival at American University, Joe has published five books including his most recent, *Getting it Wrong: Ten of the Greatest Misreported Stories in American Journalism*, which was honored with the 2010 "Research About Journalism" Sigma Delta Chi award from the Society of Professional Journalists. He also has contributed book chapters and peer-reviewed journal articles, and published more than 500 essays and commentaries on his blog, *Media Myth Alert*, since late 2009. He is a three-time Pulitzer Prize nominee, both for national and international reporting.

Joe is a past chair of the History Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication and previously was editor of its online quarterly newsletter. He is the immediate past national president of Kappa Tau Alpha, the 100-year-old honor society recognizing high achievement in journalism and mass communication studies.

This citation only scratches the surface of Joe's multifaceted career, and for his professional and scholarly achievements, including his dedication to getting it right, we applaud and recognize W. Joseph Campbell with this Distinguished Achievement Citation.

May 17, 2014

