Professor leads national school psychologists’ organization

Stephen Brock, a Sacramento State professor and coordinator of the University’s School Psychology Program, is the new president of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). His yearlong term begins this month.

NASP, with more than 25,000 members, is the world’s largest organization of school psychologists.

“The theme of my term is ‘Ensuring Student Success: Mental Health Matters,’” Brock says. “My hope is to promote the idea that the discipline has a lot to offer to children, to ensure that they are well-prepared to be successful in school. School psychologists have a broad range of skills to ensure the mental health of all children.”

Brock, who lives in Galt, worked as a school psychologist in the Lodi Unified School District for 18 years before joining the Sacramento State faculty in 2001 and taking the helm of the small School Psychology Program, which is within the College of Education’s Department of Graduate and Professional Studies.

Sacramento State offers two school psychology degrees, master of arts degrees in education and education specialist, as well as a credential in pupil personnel services.

School psychologists are in demand locally and throughout the country, Brock says. The 15 students who graduated from the Sac State program in May 2014 landed jobs immediately.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that 16,400 new school psychologist jobs will be added between 2012 and 2022, for an employment growth rate of 11.3 percent. Part of the expansion has to do with increasing demands from students with learning disabilities, special needs and behavioral issues.

Brock has been a member of NASP for nearly two decades. He will serve as its president until June 2015.

For media assistance, contact Sacramento State’s Office of Public Affairs at (916) 278-6156. – Dixie Reid