



Macomb, IL – Five out of seven 2014 Blackhawk Division of the Illinois Principals Association (IPA) Principal of the Year Award Winners are Western Illinois University (WIU) past and present students.

Lyle Goldensoph of Moline High School (Moline, IL) graduated from WIU with a Master of Science in Education (MSED) degree in 2005. Goldensoph received the award for High School Principal of the Year and has been an administrator for a total of 10 years.

Robert Beem of Woodrow Wilson Middle School (Moline, IL) graduated from WIU with a MSED degree in 1999. Beem received the award for Middle School Principal of the Year and has been an administrator for 10 years.

Laurie Brasche of Colona Grade School (Colona, IL) graduated from WIU with a MSED degree in 2010. Brasche received the award for Elementary Principal of the Year and has been an administrator for four years.

Jeff Utsinger of Geneseo High School (Geneseo, IL) is expected to graduate from WIU in 2016 with an Education Specialist (Ed.S.) degree. Utsinger received the award for Assistant Principal of the Year and has been an administrator for two years.

Ruth Ann Tobey-Brown of Rock Island Center for Math and Science (Rock Island, IL) graduated from WIU with a Doctorate in Education (EdD) in 2009. Tobey-Brown received the award for Building Bridges and has been an administrator for 22 years.

Each of these candidates will be considered for the 2015 state-level Principals of Year awards presented at the fall IPA Conference in October of 2015.