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William Watson Purkey is Professor Emeritus of Counselor Education at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and Co-Founder of the International Alliance for Invitational Education. His professional experience includes teaching as a public school teacher, as an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Specialist in the United States Air Force, and as a university professor.

Dr. Purkey has been awarded the *University of Florida Student Award for Instructor Excellence*, the Standard Oil Foundation *Good Teaching Award*, and the *Outstanding Teacher Award* by Omicron Delta Kappa, National Leadership Honor Society. He is also the recipient of the *Distinguished Alumnus Award*, given by the School of Education, University of Virginia, the *John McGovern Award*, presented by the American School Health Association, and the *Professional Development Award* presented by the American Counseling Association. In 1991, Dr. Purkey received The University of North Carolina at Greensboro *Alumni Teaching Excellence Award*. More recently, in 1997, Dr. Purkey received the highest award for teaching given by the University of North Carolina System: *The Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Teaching*.

An active writer, lecturer, and researcher, Dr. Purkey has authored or coauthored over 80 professional articles and nine books, including Inviting School Success, now in its third edition; The Inviting School Treasury; and Invitational Counseling.

His latest book, co-authored with Betty Siegel, is Becoming an Invitational Leader. Dr. Purkey's interest is in inviting people to realize their potential.