

# The Graduate School Newsletter

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## Technologically equipped Vivian Moore Carroll Hall Opens

Dean Roger Weikle in the College of Business Administration is understandably excited about the opening of the new Carroll Hall. The newest classroom and auditorium is available thanks to the generosity of Vivian (class of 1973) and Larry Carroll of Charlotte, N.C.

Carroll Hall is home to the Carroll Capitol Markets Training and Trading Room, the 195-seat Whitton Auditorium, a 48-person computer equipped classroom, a computer lab and a smaller classroom. The executive conference room will help create the experience of board room presentations for students when they interact with the many professionals expected to come to Carroll Hall. Another feature is the inclusion of seven "collaborative learning rooms" designed for student small group meetings and case analysis. Technology includes a stock market ticker that runs continuously, six data walls, presentation display boards that are wall-mounted throughout the building and special class management software. Software available to students in the trading room includes Bloomberg, Telemet, ORIEN, and Morningstar licenses. These are prediction tools for the market, which will benefit the entire campus community. Since Morningstar can be used by unlimited users, political science, economic, and other classes will be able to take advantage of the information.

Now the College of Business Administration has the beautiful

and technologically powerful Whitton Auditorium. It will feature special speakers, combined classes and other events. The computer-equipped classroom will not operate as a lab, but instead will host classes in which each student has a computer to practice an application as the professor is providing the instruction on its use. The room can be set for one class of 48 or two classes of 24 with the use of a sliding partition. A classroom with special software that computer science majors need is located on the second floor, as well. Marketing, finance, accounting, and other business related programs will have access to this wonderful building.

"It isn't about the technology, but the instant access to information that is important in this building," Weikle said. "Students will learn to use information to make connections to understand business cycles. They will discover what the leading indicators are in the market and when we will feel the pleasure or pain from changes in the trends. The information made available in Carroll Hall is not just for future stockbrokers, but for everyone interested in how market forces affect us all every day."

The original MacFeat Nursery building, which is in front of the main entrance to Carroll Hall, has been redesigned for catering events with several dining areas and a patio. Make sure you notice the short handrail in front that the little folks used.



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## Graduate School Personnel

Different Faces and Responsibilities:



**Laurie Carpenter,**  
*recruitment, web specialist,  
graduate assistantships*



**Tammy Gillett,**  
*administrative Specialist for  
Graduate School and  
Summer Sessions*



**Natalie Jeter,** *admissions  
specialist*



**Yvonne Murnane,** *dean*



**Margaret Williamson,**  
*assistant dean, student  
services, petitions and thesis  
completion*

## Faculty Spotlight

Lisa Johnson, assistant professor in the Center for Pedagogy, assumed the responsibilities of senior associate to the dean in the Richard W. Riley College of Education on July 1. In this new position she coordinates all of the college's graduate programs, and facilitates grants and research opportunities. Johnson, who has been at Winthrop since 2004, oversees the recruitment, admission, assessment, and accreditation of seven graduate degree programs. She coordinates the graduate assistant program and monitors the overall quality of the college's graduate programs. In her short tenure in the job, she has been attentive to learning, listening, and streamlining processes and procedures.

She also enjoys tracking and facilitating grant opportunities. As she finds grants that she believes education faculty would be interested in pursuing, she makes sure the appropriate people are notified. Johnson maintains sample proposals and other resources to support grant writing and grant management. Additionally, she oversees the progress of ongoing grants.

Another part of Johnson's job is to provide support for faculty

research with particular attention to non-tenured faculty members. She will be working with senior faculty and Dacus Library staff to construct a database of various outlets for research. Johnson also started offering small research groups that hopefully will become support systems for new faculty.

"This job allows me to help others and support the College's mission,"

Johnson said. She sees her role as "facilitating the continued growth and progress of an already phenomenal graduate program."



**Lisa Johnson**

## Graduate Students and Faculty Social Planned

The Graduate Student Advisory Council and the Graduate School are sponsoring an informal social at the Shack on October 23 from 6 – 8 p.m. All graduate students and faculty are invited to this event. The idea came from the advisory council who indicated that they would like an opportunity to meet others from different disciplines and to network.

We hope to see you there! RSVP to the Graduate School at extension 2204 or by e-mailing Nancy Thomas at [thomasn@winthrop.edu](mailto:thomasn@winthrop.edu)

## Accommodations and Access at Winthrop

The staff of Services for Students with Disabilities collaborates with all university departments to ensure that Winthrop's programs and facilities are accessible to every student, including graduate students. If you qualified for services and accommodations as an undergraduate student or if you qualify for accommodations at your job, you may be eligible for services at Winthrop. If you have questions about eligibility and services, please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities at 323-3290.

Students who can benefit from registering with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities have all types of documented disabilities, including but not limited to:

- Learning Disabilities
- Psychological Disabilities
- ADHD
- Chronic Medical Illnesses
- Mobility Impairments
- Visual Impairments
- Hearing Impairments
- Speech Impairments

### A Variety of Services

Accommodations are individualized adjustments to the classroom or campus that help ensure you have equal access to your education at Winthrop. Students with disabilities who want services and accommodations are responsible for:

- providing current, appropriate documentation of their disability to the Disability Services professional staff
- meeting with Disability Services professional staff to review the documentation and establish appropriate accommodations
- asking Disability Services professional staff for services when needed each semester
- using agreed-upon academic accommodations

Based on your documentation, you may be eligible for a variety of

accommodations, including but not limited to:

- Professor Notification of Accommodations
- Test-Taking Accommodations
- Accessible Technology (JAWS or ZoomText)
- Sign-Language Interpreting

### Disability Documentation

Students are responsible for providing current, appropriate documentation of their disability from a qualified health services provider (i.e., physician, licensed psychologist, etc.). Documentation provided on prescription pads is also not sufficient. What does that mean? While the university may require additional testing to further define needed accommodations, documentation should:

- be typed or printed on official letterhead, dated, and signed by an evaluator qualified to make the diagnosis
- state the diagnosed disability clearly and thoroughly
- be current, within the last 3-5 years for learning disabilities, the last year for psychiatric disabilities, and the last 3 years for ADHD (may not apply to physical or sensory disabilities of a permanent or unchanging nature)
- include a list and description of all diagnostic tests used in the evaluation with the relevant test scores used to document the disability (may not apply to physical or sensory disabilities of a permanent or unchanging nature)
- include relevant educational and medical history
- describe the functional limitations resulting from the disability (i.e. the current impact of the disability on your performance)
- include specific recommendations for accommodations

### Notifying Professors

If you need classroom accommodations, you should request them from the Disability Services professional staff early in the semester. Students who request accommodations are required to provide their professors with a formal notice from the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities. This notice will outline your specific, documented accommodation needs.

### Confidentiality

Information regarding your disability is confidential. Although faculty and staff must be aware that a disability is present in order to provide accommodations, they only receive specific information about the nature of a disability at your request. Your disability documentation will not be released without your written authorization unless required by federal or state law.

### Office Location and Appointments

The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located on the first floor of Crawford Building. Call 803/323-3290 (Voice/TDD) to schedule an appointment or stop by Disability Services in 110A Crawford.

### Fall/Spring Semester Hours

Monday – Thursday  
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Fridays  
9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

If you have concerns about connecting with Services for Students with Disabilities staff members because you are typically on campus only during evenings or weekends, please feel free to contact the office to set up an appointment for an initial phone consultation so that we can help answer your questions.

## Dacus Library Information

Many students do not take full advantage of services provided by Dacus Library. Some graduate students may not even know the resources that are available there.

Dean Mark Herring can provide a wealth of reasons for you to visit the library in person or online.

First, a Winthrop ID is required to enter the building, checkout material, and access the library's over 100 databases. According to Dean Herring, all library databases have a contract clause saying that only a student or employee may have access. PASCAL Delivers will not allow you to log on its site because it will not recognize that you are a student. Also, library staff members no longer have cash on hand for the copiers so students need to have a copier account, which often is linked to the ID card.

All the reference librarians are trained in particular subject areas and are very willing to assist with research projects, as well as theses. Through Dacus, users can access nine million titles in South Carolina of which 70-75% are unique titles. Usually titles are available within 72 hours. Interlibrary loan, which accesses titles beyond South Carolina, normally takes longer than 72 hours, but is generally obtained within a few days. Thousands of students use this service every year.

Dean Herring also indicated that the staff provides helpful information on Facebook and Twitter. He is going to start a blog this summer on interesting topics such as the Google book deal and the Kindle 2. He said that the library has changed significantly in the last few years, but there will be even more dramatic changes in the next five years.

The Dacus Library web site address is [www.winthrop.edu/dacus/default.htm](http://www.winthrop.edu/dacus/default.htm).

## Will consumers get relief soon?

The bursting of the housing bubble in 2008 led to endless nightmares for many companies as well as for consumers in America and around the world. Prices of real estate plummeted, with the effects rippling through every sector of the economy. 2009 has seen a significant number of bank failures, while other large companies in the banking, investment, insurance, and automobile industries have been rescued by bailout money. Unemployment is approaching double-digits nation-wide. The question everyone is asking is "when will the recession end?" Liz Ann Sonders, Chief Investment Strategist for Charles Schwab, was one of the first to predict the upcoming recession and one of the first to declare a slow recovery beginning in May. During an interview, Sonders expressed belief that the recovery would follow a V-shaped pattern and level off in the first or second quarter of 2010. Many other economists and financial advisers believe the economy is currently experiencing recovery. The Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke recently declared on September 15<sup>th</sup> "the recession is very likely over."

So, the question now is: are we as consumers out of the woods yet? While indicators show strengthening in many industries and companies returning to profitability for the first time in months, this 2009 third quarter recovery may leave consumers behind. Companies have had to cut costs over the last year through reducing inventory, cutting salaries and benefits, and further reducing their payroll expenses by cutting jobs, in order to stay afloat. This is evidenced by the U.S. experiencing the highest unemployment levels in 26 years. The unemployment statistic is considered a lagging indicator to an economic recovery. Unemployment continues to

be an issue and is expected to continue to rise in the near future. The recent decision to increase the federal minimum wage is also a factor that will further impede employment. With that said, I believe that the recovery is well under way for the U.S. economy, but consumers may not see or feel much direct relief for at least six months. Industries such as housing, auto, and retail will continue to struggle until consumers are able to get back on their feet financially, thus enabling a return to a more customary level of spending.



### Guest Columnist

*Will Duncan is Willis Jennings Duncan, V. He graduated in 2008 from Winthrop's undergraduate accounting program with a 3.91 GPA and currently is carrying a 4.0 at the half-completed point in the MBA-Accounting program.*