



WINTHROP Insider

Your Monthly University Update

February 2019



Winthrop Records Highest 6-Year Graduation Rate and Surpasses 2025 Goal

Winthrop has recorded its highest 6-year graduation rate for the 2013 first-time freshman cohort. Through December 2018, 61.4 percent of students who entered the university as freshmen in fall 2013 have graduated within six years, already surpassing Winthrop's 2025 graduation rate target of 61 percent that is among the metrics in the [Winthrop Plan](#). There is still room for that number to increase as more students in the cohort could graduate this spring or summer, so the final rate will likely be higher. [Read More>>](#)



Winthrop Leadership Society Creates New Wave of Donors, Sparks Giving Challenge

A new fundraising initiative is drawing praise for helping the university already surpass its 2025 annual giving goal, which was identified in the [Winthrop Plan](#). The Winthrop Leadership Society, which currently is comprised of 80 contributors, recognizes those who pledge to make annual gifts of \$1,000 or more to Winthrop over a five-year period. In an exciting twist, a new giving challenge will enhance the membership momentum. [Read More>>](#)



Winthrop Earns Purple Heart University Designation

Winthrop was recently designated as a Purple Heart University from the Military Order of the Purple Heart in recognition of the university's support of military members, including veterans and their families. [Read More>>](#)



New Scholarship to Support Computer Science Majors

A long-time computer science educator will continue to be a champion for future students of the Department of Computer Science and Quantitative Methods.

Professor William Thacker and wife Joyce Martin have created an endowment fund that will support an annual scholarship designated for computer science majors. [Read More>>](#)



Excellence in Graduate Studies Scholarship Hits \$50,000

An anonymous donor has elevated the Excellence in Graduate Studies Endowed Scholarship to the \$50,000 mark. The merit-based scholarship is the first of its kind for the Graduate School. The endowment will allow Winthrop to provide annually two \$1,000 scholarships to students in their second year of graduate school. [Read More>>](#)

South Carolina Humanities Festival

For the first time in Rock Hill, South Carolina! Winthrop is a presenting partner

March 28-30

schumanities.org

Winthrop to Host SC Humanities Festival Events

Winthrop is partnering with SC Humanities to help host the annual SC Humanities Festival, March 28-30. The festival will celebrate the local history and culture of York County, engaging the citizens in lectures, discussions, films and exhibits, and facilitating partnerships between cultural organizations and community groups.

[Read More>>](#)



Varsity Esports Program to Launch This Fall

Winthrop will become only the third NCAA Division I school – joining Marquette University and Wagner College – to have an esports program housed within its athletics department when a varsity esports program launches in the fall.

[Read More>>](#)



Eagle Club Auction to Raise Money for Student-Athlete Scholarships

The 28th Annual Eagle Club Scholarship Auction, set for March 30 at the Winthrop Ballpark, will feature a silent auction, dinner and a main auction. Non-attendees also may participate through the online auction site. Supporters are encouraged to bid on a variety of items donated by Winthrop faculty, staff and area businesses.

All proceeds from the live and [online auctions](#) will support student-athlete scholarships. [Learn More>>](#)



Winthrop to Hold Inaugural Giving Day

Each year Winthrop welcomes a new class of Eagles at Winthrop Day. This year, in partnership with Winthrop Day, the Division of University Advancement will hold on Saturday, April 6, a 24-hour day of philanthropy. Winthrop alumni, parents, faculty, staff, students and friends are encouraged to make a gift of any size on this day to invest in Winthrop's future. [Read More>>](#)



Alumni Director's Letter: We Want to Hear from You!

There are several alumni gathering opportunities ahead, and we would love for you to attend. We enjoy connecting with our alumni at these fun events. We also want to celebrate your good news. Send information about your new job, promotion, award recognition, etc. to [mailto:alumni@winthrop.edu?subject=Good news](mailto:alumni@winthrop.edu?subject=Good%20news) and your good news will be featured in the Class Notes section of an upcoming edition of the [Winthrop Magazine](#). [Read More>>](#)



Design the 2019 Homecoming T-shirt

Think you've got the skills to design Winthrop's 2019 Homecoming T-shirt? Then put those skills on display with this new tradition! The Alumni Association will host a Homecoming T-shirt contest in celebration of Homecoming and Reunion Weekend 2019, which is Friday, Nov. 15–Saturday, Nov. 16. The contest, which is open only to alumni, runs from March 1-31. [Read More>>](#)



**Save the Date:
Homecoming and Reunion Weekend 2019**

Make plans for Homecoming and Reunion Weekend 2019 scheduled Friday, Nov. 15-Saturday, Nov. 16. For information about specific events, please [e-mail](#) the Office of Alumni Relations or call 800/578-6545. [Read More>>](#)



Donor Spotlight: Janet Daniel '72, '75, '77

The pride that alumna Janet Elaine Deal Daniel '72, '75, '77 and her siblings have in Winthrop has been a part of the Deal family and has been a big factor in them giving back to the university. They have a long history of giving and this past December, the siblings each purchased personalized bricks on Scholars Walk to support the Winthrop Fund, which backs a number of initiatives, including student scholarships and undergraduate research. [Read More>>](#)

Calendar of Events

March 1, Skate with the Atlanta Alumni Chapter
7-11 p.m., [Sparkles Family Fun Center](#)

March 20-22, Winthrop [Model United Nations 43rd Annual Conference](#)

March 23, Kershaw County Alumni Luncheon
11:30 a.m., [Springdale Hall](#)

March 30, Eagle Club Auction
6 p.m., [Winthrop Ballpark](#)

A dark red rectangular graphic with a vertical bar of colorful squares (yellow, red, teal, blue, purple) on the left side. The text is centered and reads:

Office of Alumni Relations
Morgan-Holcombe Alumni Center
304 Tillman Hall
Rock Hill, South Carolina 29733
803/323-2145
www.winthrop.edu/alumni
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701 Oakland Avenue, Rock Hill, SC 29733-0001