

**Introduction for  
Dr. Anthony J. DiGiorgio  
President Emeritus  
Distinguished Professor of Leadership and Public Service  
Winthrop University**

Winthrop University President Emeritus Anthony DiGiorgio has noted that his career has included “four or five” higher education presidencies – they just all were at South Carolina’s Winthrop University.

That’s DiGiorgio’s way of noting how rare it is that a university president has the opportunity to truly transform a campus, which he is credited with doing at Winthrop between 1989 and 2013 – a rare 24-year tenure in office.

Under DiGiorgio’s leadership, Winthrop University grew from a regional college with a venerable history to a national-caliber comprehensive university that helps set the pace for quality higher education.

It all started in 1989, when DiGiorgio was appointed Winthrop’s ninth president, and quickly led the college’s conversion to Winthrop University, a comprehensive public teaching institution. Winthrop became the first public institution in South Carolina to offer 100 percent national accreditation of all programs for which such accreditation was then offered. Today, Winthrop University is regularly rated among the top public institutions of its kind in the South by *U.S. News and World Report*, winning accolades for academic excellence, emphasis on students’ personal character development, commitment to diversity, award-winning student programming, sound fiscal management, and overall institutional excellence. National publications, including *Barron’s Best Buys* and *The Princeton Review*, have rated Winthrop University among the “best buy, best value” institutions in the nation. *U.S. News and World Report* in 2010 named Winthrop to its “Keep An Eye On These Schools” list of “up-and-coming institutions that have made the most promising and innovative changes in academics, faculty, students, campus or facilities.”

In addition to his on-campus and community leadership, Dr. DiGiorgio has served as a member of the board of directors of the National Collegiate Athletics Association, the Federal Reserve Board of Charlotte, the State Council of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, and the National and State Campus Compact Boards, among many others.

In 2013, the Winthrop Board of Trustees named DiGiorgio the university’s first Distinguished Professor of Public Service and Leadership, a position he returned to following a year’s sabbatical.

Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome Winthrop University President Emeritus, Dr. Tony DiGiorgio.

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