

WINTHROP MAGAZINE

Spring 2018



WINTHROP  
UNIVERSITY

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Friends:

Our campus has been excited these last few weeks to see some of the fruits of our long-awaited rebranding initiative. As you may have read via an email from me, in the Blue Line e-newsletter or on social media, we recently unveiled a refreshed logo and released a video about how the Winthrop experience is understood by our constituents, from our family on campus to prospective students, parents and alumni.

Our website redesign remains a priority and our partner, FMB Advertising, also continues to craft our messaging and design theme for the recruitment of undergraduates. The Graduate School's online partner, Wiley & Sons, recently launched their marketing for prospective graduates interested in one of our online degree programs.

These and other accomplishments speak to the importance of rethinking how we present Winthrop to the world in a way that truly sets us apart from other colleges and universities. Goal 1 of our **Winthrop Plan** focuses on ensuring students make the most of their time here and on the enrollment growth and increases in retention and graduation rates that will come with consistently delivering on student success across the board.

Please read more about our rebranding initiative on pages 2-3 of this *Winthrop Magazine* edition. I also encourage you to visit [www.winthrop.edu/ucm/rebrand](http://www.winthrop.edu/ucm/rebrand) and view the links there that provide additional insight on the effort.

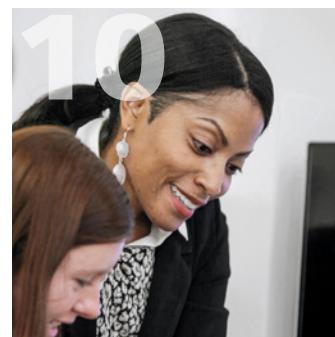
Other stories that I encourage you to read include:

- The Department of Fine Arts' collaborative relationship with the city of Rock Hill that has yielded stunning pieces of public art throughout the city. The latest partnership just happens to be right behind campus — a new roundabout that features the works of 10 students;
- Student Body President Tadean Page's dedication to ensuring that future generations of college students have much-needed financial and moral support;
- Faculty member Crystal Glover's commitment to preparing compassionate and respectful elementary school teachers; and
- The Office of Nationally Competitive Awards' life-changing work with Winthrop's best and brightest students.

As always, there are so many exciting things happening at Winthrop, and I'm honored to witness it each day. Thank you, too, for being a part of Winthrop and for helping us advance the university in new ways.

Sincerely,

Daniel F. Mahony  
President



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## NOTES

*About the Cover*

Winthrop's new logo, the first official institutional logo redesign in 25 years, was unveiled during a Feb. 22 event. Read more about the new logo and other rebranding efforts on pages 2-3.

*Winthrop Magazine* is published for alumni, faculty, staff, parents and friends of Winthrop University by University Communications and Marketing.

Winthrop University offers equal opportunity in its employment, admissions and educational activities.

All cities referenced in editorial content are located in South Carolina unless otherwise indicated.

# RESHAPING OUR STORY

## WINTHROP REBRANDS AFTER 25 YEARS

"What will it look like?" "Will it still be garnet and gold?" Those questions, and many others, were overheard throughout the excited crowd of students, faculty and staff who filled the DiGiorgio Campus Center lobby on Feb. 22 to get a first look at the university's highly anticipated new logo.

All of the excitement and build up over the last year of Winthrop's rebranding initiative came to a head as the crowd watched a special video that detailed the process behind the rebranding effort. And as the **inspirational and moving video** ended, the crowd got what it wanted...the new logo appeared on the screen to raucous cheers and applause. Winthrop had a new and fresh identity for the first time in 25 years.



Clockwise from top: Alumnae posed for photos with the new logo after the unveiling; President Dan Mahony explained the process behind selecting the new logo; a large crowd gathered to watch the logo unveiling.



**1,109**

NUMBER OF SURVEYS  
COMPLETED TO GATHER  
FEEDBACK BEFORE  
REBRANDING PROCESS  
BEGAN

**25**

NUMBER OF YEARS SINCE  
LAST OFFICIAL INSTITUTIONAL  
LOGO WAS INTRODUCED

**13**

NUMBER OF SESSIONS HELD  
TO GATHER FEEDBACK ON  
NEW LOGO

**6**

MONTHS OF MARKET  
RESEARCH CONDUCTED BY  
PARTNER FMB ADVERTISING

Some may ask, "Why rebrand now?" In short, it was time.

Since Winthrop's last rebranding effort in 1992, when Winthrop officially became a university, Winthrop has had the challenge of staying true to the university's traditions and history while also growing and evolving to meet the challenges of the changing higher education landscape.

As a result, according to Katie Price '07, the university's director of marketing, "the Winthrop brand became diluted in an effort to be all things to all people."

"It was time to refocus — to rediscover who Winthrop is and what truly makes Winthrop such a special place by working to refresh the visual identity and develop a consistent brand that would effectively tell the Winthrop story to the world," said Price.

In late 2016, work began with FMB Advertising, an agency with more than 30 years' experience in higher education marketing.

FMB started with a comprehensive brand perception research study, including feedback from both internal and external audiences. The results confirmed much of what was known: that Winthrop is a family — a close-knit community where students are cared for, supported and accepted by their peers, as well as their faculty mentors, who take a personal interest in their success. It's these qualities that make Winthrop stand out from peer institutions and why students remark time and time again that Winthrop feels like home. From there, work began towards creating a more focused brand message, and likewise, streamlining the visual identity for a greater impact.

After months of creative work and testing, a new logo was developed that honors both Winthrop's past and present. As a nod to the university's mascot and inspired by the bronze Winthrop Eagle statue on campus, the new logo prominently features an eagle, backed by the shield found in the official university seal.

During his remarks at the logo unveiling, President Dan Mahony



said: "The end result is a new logo that is uniquely ours. It is the shield from our university seal, it is the eagle from our statue, it is the Winthrop that only we use, and it is uniquely our garnet and gold. With the help of all of the members of the Winthrop family, we have developed the basis for a consistent presentation of our university that connects the past with our future and is unlike any other. It is ours alone."

The new logo comprises just one element of a comprehensive rebranding initiative. The university's website redesign, which will debut this fall, remains a priority, and FMB

Advertising continues to craft messaging and a design theme for the recruitment of undergraduates. Additionally, the Graduate School's online partner, Wiley & Sons, recently launched its marketing for prospective graduates interested in one of the university's four **online master's degree programs**.

All of these efforts, Price noted, supports Goal 1 of the university's **strategic plan** to bolster enrollment growth and retention efforts.

"This is an exciting time at Winthrop. We've known for a long time what makes Winthrop such a special place, and we're thrilled that this new rebranding initiative will help us effectively market Winthrop to prospective students in the state, the region and the world," said Price.

[View the video](#) that was shown during the Feb. 22 logo unveiling.



# SPOTLIGHTING THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST

## ONCA MATCHES STUDENTS WITH PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIPS



Rachel Burns, left, is pictured in the kitchen cooking with her "South African mom."

After working diligently in school, finally accepting that university diploma brings a swell of emotions: happiness, excitement and accomplishment.

But for Rachel Burns '16, one post-graduation moment stands out more than her time on the Winthrop Coliseum stage.

Fellow teachers at Burns' school in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, voted her "School Sweetheart" and presented her with the honor on stage in front of the entire school body. "I'll never forget the rush of warmth and affection I felt from the students as I came forward," she said. "It affected me more emotionally than receiving my university diploma



Leslie Bickford, ONCA director, helped a freshman navigate scholarship opportunities after an information session.

because being a student has always come easily to me, but being a teacher is much harder. The award signified that, despite my doubts and fears, I was making a difference."

Burns attributes her success to **Winthrop's Office of Nationally Competitive Awards (ONCA)**.

ONCA identifies highly motivated and talented students, and helps them apply for awards, scholarships, fellowships, and other opportunities that will enrich their lives and further their studies.

"ONCA was integral to making this experience happen for

me," she said. "Without the resources and advice of Dr. Leslie Bickford I wouldn't have had the confidence to step into the greatest learning experience of my life thus far."

ONCA hit its 10-year milestone last year, and current director Leslie Bickford and founding director Jennifer Disney talked about the office's importance.

"The experience of a nationally competitive award is a chance for a student to get a foot in the door and find his or her passion," said Disney, who was selected to begin the office because of her professional and extensive work with students. "Winthrop students compete with the best and brightest anywhere."

Since the office's creation, 57 students won and nine qualified for prestigious national awards such as the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Graduate Arts Award; the Rhodes Scholarship; Knowles Science Teaching Foundation Fellowship; the popular Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship; and the National Security Education Program's David L. Boren Undergraduate Scholarship.

Burns heard about ONCA when she worked as an International Center peer mentor, right down the hall from the ONCA office. She became Winthrop's first Fulbright Scholar.

"I knew I wanted to keep exploring and traveling after graduation, so I visited the office to see what opportunities I could find," she said.

## RAISING UP HER STUDENTS

While living and working in South Africa wasn't a bucket list item, she had always felt a connection to the country.

"Small things, such as a project in 10th grade, slowly helped shape my curiosity to the point where I knew I had to dive in to experience this country for myself," she said.

She calls the South African community she works with "strong and welcoming," despite the many obstacles it faces, such as poor health conditions and poverty – quite a contrast to many American school experiences.

"The schools I worked with in the United States were very privileged: smartboards, Chromebooks, computers with real software and a plethora of clubs and teams to choose from," Burns said. "While there are under-funded schools in the states, the problem here is endemic, and I'm grateful to be made aware of my privilege. Every day I come into work and do my best to help the students here raise themselves up."



Rachel Burns is no stranger to travel: she's visited Pompeii (pictured) and spent a semester studying abroad in London.

Burns, center, is pictured with students at the South African school where she teaches.

## SHIFTING THE FOCUS

Burns' success illustrates how Bickford shifted ONCA's focus to more awards like the Fulbright, which she said seems to match Winthrop students so well. "I feel like that's a good indication that Winthrop students are well-positioned to compete for these larger awards," said Bickford, who has served as director since 2013.

She also encourages students and faculty to bring in awards for consideration, pushing for a collaborative environment. Both Bickford and Disney, now chair of the Department of Political Science and director of the women's and gender studies program, emphasized how important faculty members have been to ONCA's success, from writing student recommendation letters to finding awards to promoting the office to students.

"There's a balance between wanting to help everyone with every award out there and focusing on a few awards," Bickford said. "I have to research what's out there. When students are coming in with new awards it's great because it helps me to match those awards with other students down the line. It's an added resource."

Disney echoed the importance of research. For example, the Harry S. Truman Scholarship goes to a junior with leadership experience committed to a career in public service.

"To be competitive for a Truman, we need to cultivate that in freshmen and help them make these types of choices," Disney explained. "They have to demonstrate that they have the achievements and then show they'll do more in the field. That's an exceptional student. We have to identify those students at both ends of the continuum, both for retention efforts and for the stars who can compete."



## LIFE-CHANGING SUPPORT

For many students, ONCA provides life-changing support and experiences. Sigourney Woodfork '13 competed for a Fulbright, but didn't get it. Bickford suggested she go for the Rotary Foundation Global Grants Scholar, worth \$30,000, which she won. Woodfork spent almost two years in Paris, studying global communications with a focus on developing communications. Now, she works at Merkley + Partners in New York City as an account manager and also develops a blog on sustainability for people of color.

"I would go to [Bickford's] office like twice a week and we would work on all my applications," Woodfork said. "It's really intense how much she helped me. That put my life into action. I would not have gone to France without the assistance of ONCA."

To learn more about ONCA, please contact the office at 803/323-3906 or [onca@winthrop.edu](mailto:onca@winthrop.edu).

# AVERAGE ISN'T AN OPTION TADEAN PAGE GIVES EVERYTHING HIS ALL

Whenever Tadean Page wonders if he can achieve his latest goal, his mother always says, "Why not?"

Like creating a scholarship for underprivileged males in Dillon County. Page, an individualized studies major and Dillon resident, thought he would establish a scholarship or similar program post-college. That is, until his mother said, "why not now?"

The result: Page created the I Am H.I.M. (Humble, Intelligent, Motivated) Scholarship Foundation, which awards an annual scholarship to a male graduate of Dillon High School with a 3.0 GPA who plans to attend a four-year state institution. To date, he's awarded \$2,500.

The foundation also publishes Motivating Males, a social media project featuring inspirational stories, and offers resume help, assistance with completing federal financial aid forms and college tours.



"I witnessed a lack of resources and a lack of expectations," Page said of his hometown. "I believe these students can do it. I created this so that they could believe they can do it as well."

He hosts a gala to help raise foundation funds and uses it as a way to highlight the good things people are doing in Dillon.

"It's still unbelievable that there's a need for this vision today, yet people grabbed hold of it," he said.

Growing up on the education scene — Page's parents owned and operated a daycare — Page set his sights on a teaching degree. He incorporated his love of service into his high school involvement, including participating in student government.

"I didn't know about Winthrop at the time, but heard Winthrop had the best education program in the region," he said. "My eyes were very much opened. I thought, 'I can come here and be whoever I want to be. I can dream.'"

Page wasted no time getting involved. He's served as an Orientation Leader and president of the student chapter of the S.C. Education Association, joined the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., hosted a show on Winthrop's student-run radio station and currently serves as president of the Council of Student Leaders. He speaks at public engagements and teaches a course at Clinton College in Rock Hill.

His love for service led him to make a change. He switched majors from education to individualized studies and organizational leadership with an emphasis on social justice.

"I wanted to make a bigger impact on more lives, put my hands on more heads, so to speak," he said.

As a graduation gift to himself, Page plans to publish a book in May featuring stories of African Americans and the issues they face that aren't commonly discussed.

He also wants to attend graduate school, earn a Ph.D. and eventually open a charter school for African-American males.

"Average isn't in my vocabulary," he said with a grin.

His advice for others?

"Dream, jump – get rid of your fear to reach your full potential. Being from Dillon, I'm not supposed to be here. I'm the first generation in my family to finish college, and I started a non-profit at 18. If I did it, I have faith you can do it, too."

Photo credit: Becky Fuller

# CHANGING THE LANDSCAPE

## STUDENTS SHARE THEIR ART WITH THE CITY



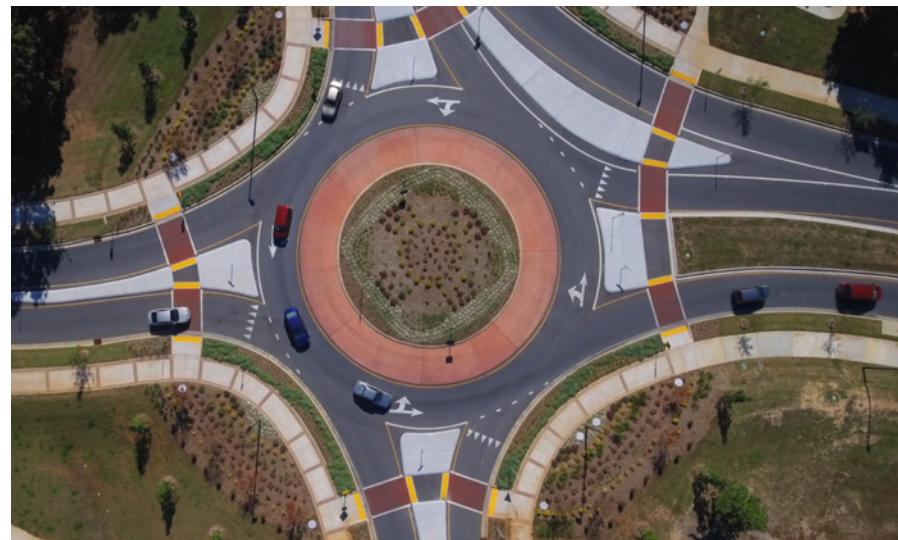
Brandy Scholl

Bicycle racks that look like tomatoes; sculptures atop poles on Main Street; intertwined bikes inspired by the theme of movement – all of these projects, and more, have been created by Winthrop's talented fine arts students for the city of Rock Hill.

In recent years, the **Department of Fine Arts** has worked with the city to extend public art off campus and into the city and surrounding areas. Most recently, the department provided student-designed public art for the city's Knowledge Park Corridor Roundabout.

"Creating public art presents our students with real-world experience," said Professor of Fine Arts Shaun Cassidy. "It forces them to think creatively, write proposals, present their ideas and manage a project's budget. All of these elements have great value for our students and their careers."

In working with the city and the Public Art course, Cassidy decided



to divide the class into two parts: the class would work together to design 10 concrete discs to incorporate into the roundabout and one student would win the opportunity to implement the design he or she envisioned for the roundabout. Brandy Scholl '16, a general studio major with focus in sculpture and jewelry/metals, won the competition, and the monetary award, based on her innovative design.

"During the design process my classmates and I were thinking you would have to put one single sculpture here or there," said Scholl. "When I researched Rock Hill's past as a textile community and its transition to a technology hub, I didn't like the stagnant nature of a single sculpture. Because the whole theme of Rock Hill development has changed, I wanted something that would continually change. So that led to me creating a design that could live and change through landscaping."

According to Cassidy, Scholl's innovative use of landscaping set

*"Except for a very few formal university public art graduate degree programs, I know of no other university art program like Winthrop's that regularly connects students with the local municipality to provide them with an opportunity to create public art for the community. It is a win-win situation."*

**Jeffrey York**  
Public and Cultural Arts Administrator

her design apart from others. "Since the landscaping will always change, the design won't become stagnant and invisible to passersby."

A \$40,000 National Endowment for the Arts grant secured by the city's economic and urban development office, partially funded the project and also brought in guest lecturers to discuss the importance of public art.

One of the lecturers, Jeffrey York, the public and cultural arts administrator from Chapel Hill, North Carolina, was particularly impressed with the relationship between Winthrop and the city: "Except for a very few formal university public art graduate degree programs, I know of no other university art program like Winthrop's that regularly connects students with the local municipality to provide them with an opportunity to create public art for the community. It is a win-win situation."

Scholl, who is the head production jeweler and design consultant for BlyDesign and applying to graduate school, agreed. "One of the best things I got out of the experience was being exposed to such real-world work. I left that class with confidence. And being mentored by Shaun, who is such an accomplished artist and taught us so many skills and techniques throughout the process, is something I don't think I would have gotten anywhere else."

**Watch a video** about the roundabout public art project.



# TEACHING FUTURE TEACHERS

## CRYSTAL GLOVER SHARES HER PASSION



As an only child, Crystal Glover '97, '99 loved school and spent hours teaching her stuffed animals what she learned in the classroom.

Placing her teddy bears in seats, she taught them the alphabet, how to count and other important details such as colors and shapes.

As she grew older, the Columbia resident tutored her developmentally challenged cousin who was four years older and had a difficult time in school.

From those experiences, it would seem that Glover would naturally want to be a teacher. "When I first came to Winthrop, I wasn't sure what I wanted to do," said Glover, who now works in the **Richard W. Riley College of Education** as an early childhood education assistant professor. "I was interested in education and once I started taking classes, I took to it. It has always been a part of who I am."

Since Glover joined the Winthrop faculty in 2014, she has received accolades for her work. Her students and colleagues have used the words excellent, supportive, special and exceptional to describe her. In fact, her teaching inspires students and colleagues equally, according to Mary Slade, chair of the Department of Curriculum and Pedagogy.

Students love how Glover builds community within her classroom. "Her greatest strength is her generosity of spirit, her consummate dedication and initiative in regards to the welfare of her students," Slade said.

Glover supervises interns, specializes in early childhood curriculum and helps prepare the education majors for classrooms of diverse populations in terms of race, ethnicity and social class. "We don't know what kinds of schools our education majors will teach in so we have to prepare them for all types of schools, whether they are in high or low poverty areas," she said.

Education majors go into the teaching field because they are compassionate, Glover said, adding that she wants to make sure that her future teachers also are respectful and sensitive to different cultures.

Students learn theory in their courses and then head to area public schools early in their training so they can learn how to manage classrooms, master their subjects, learn short- and long-range planning and understand and utilize appropriate technology, Glover said. The senior-level education

majors also follow the same schedule as the public schools so they can attend academic meetings, see a classroom set up and stay through the end of the school year.

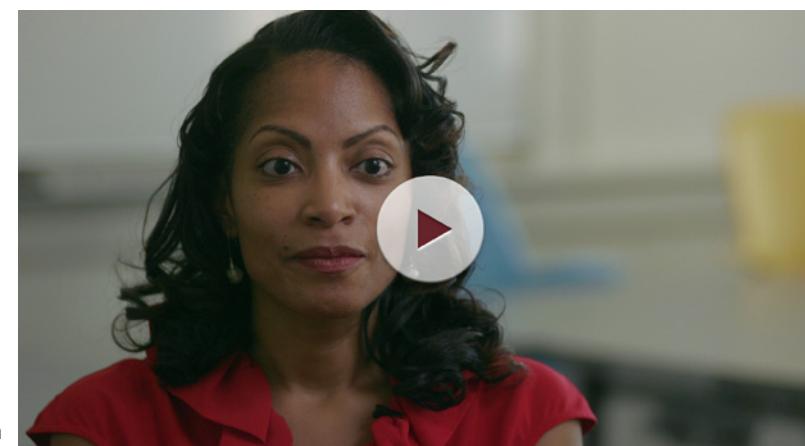
"When I was studying to become a teacher, technology did not play a major role in how I planned my lessons," Glover said. "Now, it is an integral part of the planning process for most of my students. I think it is important to help my students use the online resources that are available to them for lesson planning in a safe, thoughtful and appropriate way."

Glover can relate to many of her students' fears about career choices. She earned a bachelor's and master's degree in education, then spent 10 years teaching first grade in Rock Hill and Charlotte, North Carolina. Her decision to seek her Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina Charlotte and become a professor was not an easy one. She remembered crying when she told her principal, and he promised to bring her back to her old job if it didn't work out.

Once Glover started teaching on the college level, she discovered that working with education majors is very similar to working with elementary students. "I model things they can do once they become teachers," she said, "such as putting stickers on their papers and reading stories to them. It is easy to engage them in different strategies."

Glover and other faculty members are proud when they hear that Winthrop education majors handle the transformation into the classroom well. That is due, Glover said, to Winthrop taking its role seriously as the flagship education institution for the state. "The university offers a curriculum that is thorough and then provides its education majors with a foundation that gives them confidence," she said.

**Watch a video** to learn more about Glover and her work with students.



# Campus News

## Retirements Mean Changes in Senior Leadership



Frank Ardaiolo



J.P. McKee



Justin Oates

Two long-time vice presidents who were instrumental in campus and student growth will retire this summer.

Frank Ardaiolo, vice president for student life, and J.P. McKee '76, vice president for finance and business, will step down from their senior leadership positions.

During his 29-year career, Ardaiolo dedicated himself to promoting diversity, citizenship and internationality, and dozens of Winthrop graduates influenced by him sought graduate degrees and then went to work as student affairs professionals. He recently received two awards, one from NASPA — Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education for sustained professional achievement and the city of Rock Hill's

Martin Luther King Jr. Dream Keeper Award for exemplifying the ideals of social responsibility, political empowerment, diversity, racial harmony and nonviolence.

A search for Ardaiolo's replacement is underway.

During McKee's 42-year tenure, his area oversaw physical plant and infrastructure growth, in addition to managing the university's budget and finances.

Justin Oates, formerly the assistant vice president for financial planning, budgeting, and analysis at the Stevens Institute of Technology in New Jersey, joined Winthrop in February as the vice president for finance and business/CFO.

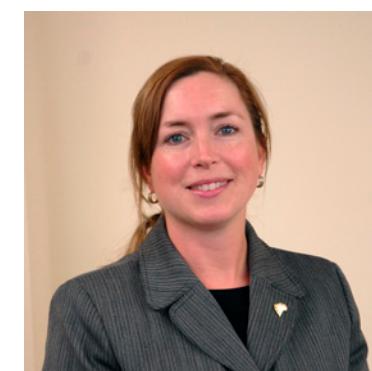
## Six New Members Inducted into Athletics Hall of Fame



The Athletics Hall of Fame welcomed six new members at the Jan. 26 induction banquet.

Inductees were: seated, from left: Lisa Kingsmore '09, softball; and long-time Eagle supporter Ann Terry; standing, from left: long-time Eagle supporter Vernon Terry; Saidi Isaac '08, men's soccer; Vinicius Bortolatto '08, men's tennis; and former Head Baseball Coach Joe Hudak. The latest inductees bring the total members of the Hall of Fame to 77.

## Fortner-Wood Honored with Kinard Award



Psychology Professor Cheryl Fortner-Wood received the university's highest teaching recognition, the James Pinckney Kinard and Lee Wicker Kinard Award for Excellence in Teaching, at the Dec. 16 Commencement ceremony. President Dan

Mahony presented Fortner-Wood with the Kinard Award for her teaching achievements and for her work directing the McNair Scholars program.

The Kinard Award, which honors former President James P. Kinard and his wife, Lee Wicker Kinard, is given annually to a faculty member who has demonstrated a dedication to teaching and is highly regarded on campus by faculty and students.



The **Winthrop Women's Coalition**, launched in 2017 by First Lady Laura Mahony, hosted a March 1 event entitled "Women in the Arts: A Panel Discussion." Panelists included, from left, internationally recognized painter and sculptor Audrey Flack, who created the Civitas statues in Rock Hill; Greenville-based architect Cary Perkins; "Shameless" actress Shanola Hampton '98; and Association of Independent Colleges of Art and Design President Deborah Obalil. During their two-day stay, the four women participated in master classes, had lunch with students and spoke to an at-capacity crowd of students, faculty, staff, community members and coalition members about their careers, the roles of women in the arts and much more. "We were so proud to have such a diverse panel of women on campus to share their perspectives and insights related to their careers in the arts," Mahony said.

## Athletics Unveils New Strategic Plan

The Athletics department rolled out a strategic plan initiative in February that will carry the department through 2025, keeping it in line with the university's strategic plan, known as the Winthrop Plan.

The **Winthrop Athletics Strategic Plan: Drive to '25** outlines six departmental goals, each corresponding with specific Winthrop strategic plan goals and initiatives.

"This plan establishes a vision for our department," said Halpin. "It describes and defines a destination for where we want to go and how we are going to get there, what success looks like, and makes sure we understand that if we accomplish the metrics outlined in our plan that we will have executed a successful path towards an intentional destination."

The six goals include target and stretch benchmark metrics in areas such as graduation, post-graduation job or school placement rates for student-athletes, championships, winning percentage, game attendance, community outreach, revenue and staff diversity.



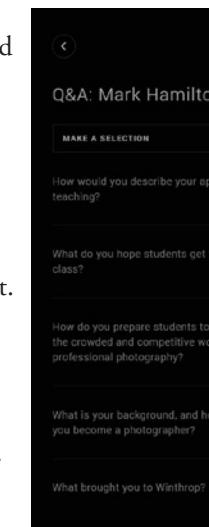
**WINTHROP**  
ATHLETICS

## Innovative Video Wins Prestigious Regional Award

An episode of the university's cinematic documentary series *These Professors*, created by Videographer Shawn Cetrone, won a Council for Advancement and Support of Education Regional III Award of Excellence in the Online Innovation/Experimentation category for electronic and digital media. The award was presented in February at the organization's annual conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

The award-winning episode, featuring Professor of Fine Arts Mark Hamilton, contained a new form of interactive video to give viewers more control of the content.

**View the interactive version of These Professors:** Mark Hamilton and **subscribe** to Winthrop's YouTube channel to view more of the university's compelling videos.



# Advancement News

## Winthrop, PricewaterhouseCoopers Partner on Accounting Program for Underrepresented Students

Despite years of intensive efforts, the accounting profession still struggles with the challenge of how to diversify its ranks. To address this issue, Winthrop's **College of Business Administration** has collaborated with **PricewaterhouseCoopers** (PwC), one of the world's largest professional services firms, to create a professional development program that assists underrepresented students pursuing careers in accounting.

Established in part by an \$88,000 gift from PricewaterhouseCoopers, the **Accounting Mentorship and Professional Development** (AMPD) program provides participants with professional development sessions, tutoring,

cohort accounting classes, access to Becker Professional Education's CPA Exam Review, a PwC mentor (sophomore through senior years), ongoing scholarship support and an automatic invitation to a PwC Freshman Externship.

"I participated in this program because it would afford me the opportunity to make connections with others in the accounting field. This program is so beneficial to students because it allows us to visit accounting firms such as PwC and provides us with the resources to be successful," said Kayla Brown, an AMPD participant from Charlotte, North Carolina, and a member of the women's basketball team.

According to College of Business Administration Dean P.N. Saksena, "the AMPD program has strong potential to expand in the future and to become a national model for other colleges and universities."

### Gifts and Pledges of Note:

• **Donald Kollarik** established the Reverend (Colonel) Mary Lou Morris Kollarik and Colonel Donald Martin Kollarik Scholarship and Annual Restricted Scholarship to honor his wife, Mary '68, and their military careers. The scholarship will provide an annual award to one senior in Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) who is eligible for commissioning into any branch of the military following graduation. First preference will be given to a student within the Richard W. Riley College of Education.

• **Dolores Vees '72** established the Dolores Vees Endowed Scholarship to award annually to a first-generation student who is majoring in psychology or counseling and development at the graduate level.



Clarence Coleman, professor of accounting and director of the AMPD program, talked with program participants during a recent meeting.

# Alumni News

## Isaiah Venning Elected as Alumni Representative to Winthrop's Board of Trustees

Alumni have chosen Isaiah "Reggie" Venning '95, '00 to serve as the alumni representative for the Winthrop University Board of Trustees.

The six-year term begins July 1.

"I am so excited and honored to be elected to serve as an alumni representative on Winthrop's Board of Trustees," said Venning. "I am looking forward to supporting the mission and long-term benefits of the university."

The Rock Hill resident earned his B.S. in business administration and his M.B.A. at Winthrop. He is a self-employed stock trader.

Venning has remained active with his alma mater, currently serving on the Graduate School Advisory Board as a member of the Community Relations Sub-Committee.

He also has made significant contributions to the local community and state. He serves on the city of Rock Hill Community Relations Council, where he contributes to the MLK Interfaith Prayer Breakfast, Black History Program and



Isaiah "Reggie" Venning

National Race Equality Week. Presently, he is the PTO president for Old Pointe Elementary School. He also serves on the Carolina Community Actions (CCA) Board. Venning volunteers regularly at the elementary, middle and high schools in the local area. As a result, he received the Outstanding Volunteer Award from Rock Hill School District Three. Venning is an active member of the Kappa Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

He also serves as public service chair for the chapter, where members participate in local community service efforts. Finally, Venning serves as the district coordinator for the Big Brother/Big Sister program for the Sixth District of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Venning is married to Krystal Davis Venning '96, '99, and the couple has two children, Isaiah Jr. and Langston.



## Meet Your 2017 Alumni Award Winners

Your 2017 Alumni Award Winners are, from left, Jay Karen '96; Sue Francis Meriwether Steed '67; Zainab Ghadiyali '09; President Dan Mahony (presented the awards); Cynthia Blair Roddy '67; David McDonald '01 (announced the winners); Polly Wylie Ford '48; Delores Johnson Hurt '67; Larry Durham '80; and Gene Mackey, accepting the award posthumously for his wife, Arnetta Gladden Mackey '67. [Read more](#) about the winners.



# Class Notes

## Let Us Hear from You!

Do you have a new job, marriage, baby or other life-changing event that you would like to share with the Winthrop family? If so, please send in your information to be included in a future Winthrop Magazine issue.

Please e-mail [alumni@winthrop.edu](mailto:alumni@winthrop.edu), visit [www.winthrop.edu/alumni](http://www.winthrop.edu/alumni) or call 803/323-2145 or 800/578-6545 to submit your news.

### 1970

The International Association of Who's Who named **Paula Farry Birmingham** of Cornelius, North Carolina, the Professional of the Year.

### 1981

**Barbara Ragin Champagne** has been appointed as superintendent of Clarendon School District 1 in Summerton.

**Scott Middleton** of Columbia was chosen as the chair of Pfeiffer University's Board of Trustees.

Columbia native **Thomas Stringfellow** has been appointed president and CEO of Riverbanks Zoo and Garden.

### 1984

Lake Wylie resident **Cathy Bickley Brooks** has become an adjunct professor at Winthrop.

### 1985

Abbeville County School District named **Julie Gore Fowler** of Simpsonville the chief administrative officer for the State Department of Education's deputy superintendent for college and career readiness.

Ameritrust Residential Services in Atlanta, Georgia, promoted **John Lang** of Pennsville, New Jersey, to senior project manager.

The city of Anderson Economic

Development Office hired Anderson native **Kimberly (Kim) Harris Spears** as the economic development director.

### 1987

**Derrick Alridge** of Charlottesville, Virginia, leads the Center on Race and Public Education in the South at the University of Virginia.

### 1989

The National Association of Student Personnel Administrators honored **T. Hampton Hopkins** of Matthews, North Carolina, as a recipient of the Pillar of the Profession Award.

### 1990

Easley native **Amy Mason** will be inducted into Easley High School's Athletic Hall of Fame.

### 1992

Tara Youngblood Easler of Moore has been inducted into the J.L. Mann High School Athletic Hall of Fame in Greenville.

### 1993

Lancaster resident **Williford (Buddy) Faile** joined the University of South Carolina Lancaster as director of budget and finance.

### 1994

Carrie Hall Dufresne received a

Master of Science in accounting from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

**Tammy Snipes** has been named principal of Lewisville High School in Chester County.

The new head women's basketball coach at Claflin University in Orangeburg is Columbia resident **Revonda Whitley**.

### 1996

**Veronique Moses**, program director for IBM Watson Health in Raleigh, North Carolina, was chosen as a panel speaker for the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, The Future of STEM: Back-to-School Minority Opportunity Fair.

### 1997

**Sarah Lageman** of Richmond, Virginia, was promoted to associate professor in the neurology department at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Rock Hill resident **Caroline Rust-Ward** joined the Board of Directors of ArtPop in Charlotte, North Carolina.

### 1999

Oxford University Press published an article, "The Birth of a New Carol," by **Kevin Gray** of Rock Hill.

Works by **Marc Roach '99, Sarah Kinard '14, Luke Atkinson '09, Zach Greenway '13, Adrian Rhodes '05, '11, Lila Shull '11 and Greyson Douglas Smith '14 were featured at the Printmaking 2017 Exhibition in McLaurin's Lewandowski Student Gallery.**

### 2001

Greenville resident **David McDonald** was the recipient of the Association for Middle Level Education's 2017

National Educator of the Year Award.

### 2002

Charlotte, North Carolina, resident **Alexis Gordon** was chosen to receive the Charlotte International Rotary Club Global Service Award.

Charleston native **Alyson Maderson Quinlog** completed a four-week residency at I-Park Foundation Inc. in East Haddam, Connecticut.

### 2004

Biesse Group promoted **Jacqueline Liger** from Charlotte, North Carolina, to North American marketing manager for Intermac and Diamut.

Baltimore, Maryland, resident **Scott Melton** received the first Distinguished Alumnus Award from Winthrop's Department of Mass Communication.

**Chris Miller** of Rock Hill was named South Carolina's Statewide Sportscaster of the Year for the eighth consecutive year.

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation selected **Courtney O'Neill Roldan** of Johns Island as one of Charleston's Best and Brightest for 2017.

### 2005

Columbia Business Monthly named **Ashlye Rumph-Geddis Wilkerson** one of the Best & Brightest 35 and Under.

### 2006

Greenville Business Magazine named **Jermaine Whirl** of Simpsonville one of the Best & Brightest 35 and Under.

York resident **Elizabeth (Anne) Royal Witte** graduated from the University of South Carolina with a Doctor of Education in curriculum and instruction.

### 2007

HarperTeen, part of Harper Collins Publishers, purchased "From Blood and Ash," a young adult novel by **Jessica Baker Leake** of Simpsonville.

### 2008

Pohakau'ilani (Pohai) Nu'uhiwa Campbell joined Hawaiian law firm Cades Schutte as an associate in the finance and real estate department.

### 2009

Columbia resident **Antjuan Seawright**, was presented with the Charleston NAACP's Presidential Award at the 100th anniversary banquet.

### 2010

West Milford, West Virginia, resident **Travis Coleman** is the throws coach for the University of Maryland track and field team.

**Mary LeSesne Delpit**, founder of The Blush Label, was featured in "The 50 Most Stylish Southerners" in *Southern Living Magazine*.

Princeton, New Jersey, resident **Daniel Heath** launched Church 21, a congregation consulting service, in Charlotte, North Carolina.

**James Jeter** from Winnsboro participated in the United Way Worldwide's Leaders Engaged in Accelerated Development (LEAD) program.

Memphis, Tennessee, resident **Jeremy Phelps** is a volunteer assistant men's lacrosse coach for the University of Massachusetts.

### 2011

**Amber (Omeaga) Haynes** of North Charleston is an agent with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Southern Coast Real Estate.

### 2012

**Megan Chapman** was named the head softball coach at Elizabeth City State University, in Elizabeth City, North Carolina.

### 2015

Princeton University hired **Ian Deas** of Charleston as the program coordinator for the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Students.

Rock Hill resident **Krystal Thomas Gonzales** completed her M.B.A. with a concentration in accounting at Winthrop.

### 2016

**Steven Patrick** of Knoxville, Tennessee, received one of 29 NCAA postgraduate scholarships to study osteopathic medicine at Western University of Health Sciences.

Simpsonville native **Alexandra VanHaasteren** is the lead web developer at Uncomm in Greenville.

### 2017

**Amanda Foshag** of Rock Hill has been named an ArtPop artist for 2018.

Bluffton native **Michelle Perri** is a stage management intern at the Public Theater in New York City.

# Milestones

## Alumni Recently Named Teacher of the Year

- Debbie Lancaster '85  
Teacher of the Year for York School District
- Vernon Weygandt '94  
Teacher of the Year for Spartanburg School District
- Shamona Fernanders '05  
Teacher of the Year for Cherokee County School District
- Robin Deyton '09  
Teacher of the Year for Clover School District
- Katie Thompson Gawronski '16  
The Academy for the Arts, Science and Technology Myrtle Beach

## Congratulations to the Newly Retired!

- Donna Butler Williams '78  
Summerville
- Sara Johnson Borton '81  
Columbia
- Robin (Rob) Hunter '83  
Matthews, North Carolina
- Vivian McWhorter-Hubbard '84  
Orangeburg
- Karen Weant Robinson '87  
Lexington

## MARRIAGES

- Lisa Adrienne Shanklin '94 to Muhammad Tasir
- Danielle Lynn Kiracofe '97 to Patrick Meyers
- Stacey Ann Staggers '02 to Nicholas D'Antonie Brown '02
- Dawn Elizabeth Jenkins '03 to Derek Wong
- Stacey Renee Singleton '04, '05 to Keith Whitfield
- Keri Ann Cooper '07 to Dana Johnson

- Quincy Maurice Miller '08 to Lindsay Sherria Johnson '11, '13
- Nathan Andrew Evers '11 to Shannon Lynn Monnier '14
- Sara Rachel Felts '11 to Trevor Karker
- Kellie Rachel Sellers '11 to Chris Walker
- Alexis Jewel Williams '11 to Embre B. Scurry
- Amanda Paige Blackwell '12 to Matthew (Matt) Ryan Whitehead '12
- Brandon Thomas McGinnis '12 to Jessica Brittany Irvin '14
- Kristin Paige Cruse '13 to Caleb Hawkins
- Courtney Michelle Hawkins '13 to Chadwick O. Taylor-El
- Dorothy (Dorie) Leigh Lancaster '13 to Jonathon Keith Long '15
- Leslie Clare Lyon '13 to Colin James Hennessy
- Elayna Renee Trull '14 to Thomas Andrew McLeroy '15
- Hannah Victoria Farr '15 to David Vinson
- Margaret (Molly) Anne Gasper '15 to Elliott Pope
- Kati Rebecca Leonard '15 to Christopher Wise
- Shelby Mason Peay '17 to Nicholas Anthony Cunningham '17

## BIRTHS

- Alicia Picaro Hughes '96, a daughter, Poppy Antonia Hughes, Sept. 16, 2017
- Teresa Cavanaugh Lange '03, a daughter, Cecilia Kate Lange, June 13, 2017
- Matthew Busby III '04, a son, Matthew Busby IV, Sept. 20, 2017
- Jocelyn Decken Gunderson '04 and Watson Matthews Gunderson '06, a son, Watson William Gunderson, June 12, 2017
- Tonisha Pearson Vanderhorst '06 and Derrick Antonio Vanderhorst '06, a daughter, Keller Savannah Vanderhorst, Sept. 12, 2017
- Danielle Goulet Biosvert '07 and Lionel Louidor Biosvert '07, a daughter, Chloe Sophia Biosvert, Dec. 10, 2017
- Natalie Kotowski Hensen '07, a daughter, Taylor Paige Hensen, Sept. 8, 2017
- Nina Washington Scott '07, a daughter, Nadia Elise Scott, May 29, 2017
- Jennifer Hensley Urnest '07, a son, Mason Christopher Urnest, May 3, 2017
- Ashley Miller Welch '07, a son, Brady Miller Welch, Nov. 25, 2017
- Bristol Cornelius Adams '08 and Quincy Antione Adams '09, a daughter, Victoria Brielle Adams, Sept. 28, 2017
- Bradley (Brad) David Robertson '08 and Casey Sessions Robertson '09, a son, Gavin Timothy Robertson, Dec. 17, 2017
- Allison Berry Ray '09, a son, Elijah Hopkins Ray, Sept. 11, 2017
- Blair Ligon McCraney '11, a son, Griffin Thomas McCraney, May 19, 2017
- Alicia Huff Hyatt '13 and Joshua (Josh) Dylan Hyatt '14, a daughter, Olivia Brooke Hyatt, Feb. 25, 2017
- Krystal Thomas Gonzales '15, '17, a son, Ramon Alexander Gonzales, Oct. 10, 2017

## IN MEMORIAM

### 1930s

- Martha Orr Davenport '38  
Edith Hoke Patterson '38
- Nellie Boggs Carpenter '41  
Mary (Mary Lou) Howle Hunnicutt '41  
Helen Moss Huntley '41  
Inez Abrams Stephens '41  
Mary Smith Thrower '41  
Jean Cameron Bennett '42  
Amanda Kathryn (Kat) Corley Blackman '42  
Frances McMahan Blakely '42  
Polly McGill Connor '42  
Ernestine Sittin Parrish '42  
Nanalie Stokes Warlick '42  
Mary Elizabeth Hamilton Darby '43  
Mary (Louise) Yelton Davis '43  
Tessie Onivia (Nibby) Neves Gwinn '43  
Alvaree Newsome Hanley '43  
Mary Parham Lewis Lewis '43  
Margie Jones Page '43  
Margaret Weekly Shinar '43  
Hazel (Wilma) Hutto Shuler '43  
Eloise Proctor Davis Bullard '44, '78  
Vera Verdin Griffin '44  
Helen Williams McLendon '44  
Katherine (Katie) Little Poe '44  
Evelyn Gantt Wagner '44  
Lalla Farmer Barron '45  
Frances (Anne) Curry Hobson '45  
Sarah Speck Knisley '45  
Jane Little Pittman '45  
Katrine Martin Pitts '45  
Aurie (Faye) Shannon Rush '45  
Ida (Isabel) Pickett Thompson '45  
Dorothy Anderson Walkup '45  
Juanita Feagle Cousins '46  
Frances Stone Fulmer '46  
Chispah Freeman Ivey '46  
Jacquelyn (Jackie) Higgins Bandy '47  
Elease Johnson Bell '47  
Elizabeth Conley Bland '47  
Hilda McGee Tripp Dragos '47  
Mildred (Ruth) Anders King '47  
Winifred Shealy Powers '47  
Elinor Mouchet Shaner '47  
Lucy Boykin Byrd '48  
Gertrude (Trudy) Browning Carnahan '48  
Miriam (Anne) Washington Hagood '48  
Carolyn Keller Jett '48  
Hazel Killingsworth Haddon Manos '48  
Nannie (Merlee) Epting Stuck '48  
Winnie Corbett Betsill '49  
Alicia Wallace Hipp '49, '72

### 1940s

- Jean Bonnette Holston '49  
Geraldine Rogers Mealing '49  
Emmie Evans Rector '49
- Elise (Joye) Jenkins Smith Trott Chambers '50  
Margaret Ameen Cooper '50  
Margaret Roberts Gaddis '50  
Norma Caldwell Lambert Hughes '50  
Joan Johnson Johnson '50  
Alta Randall Kingman '50  
Reba Bryce Kinon '50  
Virginia Laffitte McCrae '50  
Alberta Lachicotte Quattlebaum '50  
Fannie Strickland Stanley '50  
Doris Campbell Tate '50  
Jean Paige Brown '51  
Barbara Byrd DuBose '51  
Patricia (Ann) Player Murphy '51  
Mary (Jane) Mauney Small '51, '74  
Maude Pope Reid '52  
Anne Little Adams '53  
Kathleen Shealy Are '53  
Barbara Bigger Brewer '53  
Betty Allen Chowning '53  
Mary Anne Duren Epting '53  
Barbara Nichols Shealy '53  
Mary Huggins Steakley '53  
Shirley Moore Stricklin '53  
Gertrude (Trudy) Seagraves '54  
Nancy Munley Underwood '54  
Anne Thomasson Padgett '55  
Zena Johnson Carmichael '56  
Mary Rainey Kyzer '56  
Mae (Claudette) Dickerson Clack '57  
Evelyn Horton Gibson '57  
Eugenia (Genie) Holroyd Poag '57  
Shirley (Virginia) Smith Hill '58  
June Griffin Hudson '58  
Mary Ann Palmer '59

- 1950s
- Duane Dennie '80  
Betty Sandifer Newbold '80  
Mary Kay Spruill Stafford '80  
Beverly Wilson Williams '83  
Janet Martin Applewhite '84  
Ginger Smith Lloyd '84  
Timothy (Tim) Wayne Baxter '84  
Donald Hugh Smith '84  
Robert L. Brown Jr. '86  
Jaqitha Rountree Reid '86  
Jeffrey Douglas Bray '88
- 1960s
- Elizabeth Ruth Reid '90  
Kathryn Swaim Grant '91  
Peggy Spruill Jackson '91  
Katherine Underwood McGuirt '93
- 2000s
- Richard Andre' Blakeney '01  
Scott Frederick Frisk '01  
Christopher (Chris) Henry Farmer '02, '04  
Veronica Gray Burnett '08
- 2010s
- Michael Ayers Baker '10  
Jasmine Jackson Geter '12  
Carl Bryan Sullivan '14

# WINTHROP Quick Facts

**BEST COLLEGES**

**26**

Years in U.S. News & World Report's edition of "America's Best Colleges"



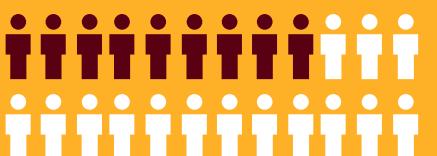
**6,073**

Current enrollment



**14:1**

Faculty/student ratio



**37%**

Minority student population



**19**

Salutatorians and valedictorians in freshman class



**64%**

Student athletes with GPA over 3.0 during fall 2017 semester



**52**

Big South Conference Championships



**420+**

Students participating in undergraduate research



**WINTHROP**  
EAGLE CLUB

## 27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL EAGLE CLUB SCHOLARSHIP AUCTION

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2018

**WINTHROP COLISEUM**  
1162 EDEN TERRACE, ROCK HILL, SC

## SILENT AUCTION DINNER MAIN AUCTION

DOORS OPEN 5:30 P.M. | SILENT AUCTION BEGINS 6 P.M.  
COCKTAIL ATTIRE  
MUST BE 21 TO ATTEND

For More Information Contact Taryn Moreno:  
at 803/323-3067 or [morenot@winthrop.edu](mailto:morenot@winthrop.edu)

TO PURCHASE ONLINE VISIT:  
[WWW.501AUCTIONS.COM/EAGLECLUBAUCTION](http://WWW.501AUCTIONS.COM/EAGLECLUBAUCTION)

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