

Start Of Page 1

WINTHROP MAGAZINE

FALL | 2024

End Of Page 1

Start Of Page 2

Dear Friends:

I am excited to update you on some incredible work and initiatives that are underway. First, after more than a year's worth of feedback and planning, we recently rolled out the 12 initiatives that will serve as the first phase of the university's strategic plan, Winthrop: United in Excellence. As I told our campus community, I'm ready to get to work on putting this plan into action. I encourage you to read more about the initiatives on pages 10-11.

One of the strategic plan initiatives that is going to transform how adult learners earn a Winthrop degree is our new Competency-

Based Education program we've dubbed Elevate. This program, which launches in January, aligns with best practice for serving professionals, adult learners, military and veterans. It is self-directed and self-paced, and it's the kind of program I would have loved 20 years ago when I was working on my degree. This will be a transformative way to help adults earn a fast, flexible and affordable degree.

I hope you'll take a few moments to read about these and additional great things happening at Winthrop in this magazine edition, such as:

- The 50th anniversary of coeducation and the significance of how it shaped not only the institution but the first men who attended;

- The newly dedicated Morgan-Holcombe Alumni Center at the Stewart House;
- Compelling profiles on David '97 and Courtney Peek '99, former student-athletes who instilled a love for Winthrop in their children, and Kelly Turney '08, head athletic trainer with the Orlando Pride professional women's soccer team; and
- The latest campus happenings, alumni news and university advancement updates.

Lastly, I hope you will make plans to join us for Homecoming and Reunion Weekend, Nov. 8-9. The weekend is packed with activities and events, and it's always exciting to see our alumni come home to celebrate. I hope to see you there.

Always an Eagle, WHAT'S INSIDE

CHANGING WINTHROP HISTORY: COEDUCATION A WELCOMING FRONT PORCH
WINTHROP: UNITED IN EXCELLENCE UNVEILED FINDING LOVE AND CREATING A LEGACY
PERFORMING AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL

02 04 10 12 14

CAMPUS NEWS 16 | ADVANCEMENT NEWS 18 | ALUMNI NEWS 20 | CLASS NOTES 22 |
MILESTONES 25 EDITORIAL STAFF

MONICA BENNETT, editor PETER AIRHEART, senior designer

contributing writers:

NICOLE CHISARI '09, '16 JUDY LONGSHAW

NOTES

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.

About the cover: The Morgan-Holcombe Alumni Center at the Stewart House artfully displays historical elements and pivotal moments throughout Winthrop's history. Read more about the new alumni center on pages 4-9.

WINTHROP UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

GLENN MCCALL Chair, Rock Hill

KATHY HUDSON BIGHAM '73 Vice Chair, Rock Hill

Edward A. Serna '02 President

JOHN BRAZELL '93 Columbia

ED DRIGGERS '92 Greer

JOEL HAMILTON '06 Rock Hill

RANDY IMLER '87, '00 Tega Cay

RICHARD LEE '82 Rock Hill

DAVID MCDONALD '01 GREENVILLE

TIM SEASE '87 Mt. Pleasant

JANET RICE SMALLEY '72 Walthalla

SANDRA STROMAN '73, '76 Chester

ADAM GLOVER Faculty Liaison to the Board

TAYLOR DEGEN Staff Liaison to the Board

SEAN PENNINGTON Student Liaison to the Board

ISAIAH VENNING '95, '00 Rock Hill

ASHLYE WILKERSON '05 Columbia

EDWARD A. SERNA '02 President

JOSEPH MILLER

Vice President for Enrollment Management and Marketing

ELLEN WILDER-BYRD '88, '94 Associate Vice President for Communications and Marketing

1

GARY WILLIAMS '11 Rock Hill

WINTHROP MAGAZINE

End Of Page 2

Start Of Page 3

had always been a part of him. His mother had worked in the residence halls, and his sister, Gayle Slagle '69, attended.

COEDUCATION

CHANGING WINTHROP HISTORY THROUGH

For years, Dennis Stamper's diploma said "Winthrop College, the South Carolina College for Women."

But Stamper was actually one of the first men to graduate from Winthrop, earning a degree in philosophy and religious studies in 1972. “It did look a little interesting on my wall,” Stamper joked. “I eventually called the registrar’s office and asked if I could have a new diploma.”

This year marks 50 years of coeducation: on March 19, 1974, then-S.C. Gov. John C. West signed a bill declaring Winthrop officially open to male students.

However, the move to coeducation was decades in the making.

Definitely in a dilemma Men were permitted to enroll as early as 1912, just not to earn degrees. The Board of Trustees first went on record supporting coeducation in December 1954, but multiple members of the state legislature opposed it.

In the 60s, Winthrop became racially integrated, coeducation was discussed at virtually every board meeting and a male student, Walter Schrader, requested candidacy for a master’s degree. He had earned enough

2

credits but his request was denied. He sued and was awarded his degree in 1969. That same year a suit brought by 20 or more male students was heard in federal court. The court ruled that males could attend other state colleges besides Winthrop.

In the 70s, a committee for coeducation was formed by Ruth Williams Cupp ’50, who was the first female attorney to be admitted into the Charleston County Bar and who also served in the S.C. House of Representatives during the 60s. Cupp and the committee raised more than \$20,000 to hire a lobbyist that got a bill passed that granted restricted admission of males who had completed at least two years of college, were S.C. residents

and who did not live on campus. The bill stipulated that a referendum be held to either return Winthrop to all-female status or continue with admitting males.

The 1974 Winthrop Tatler summed it up: “Winthrop College is definitely in a dilemma,” citing low enrollment. “There is only one answer for Winthrop and that is full coeducation now,” editors wrote.

After decades of efforts, full coeducation was signed into law in March 1974.

The best thing Growing up in Fort Mill, Stamper said Winthrop

From left: Billy Powell '75; a 1971 cartoon depicted the support of coeducation from the student body; and Moe Bell '73; Joe Osborne '74; Steve Penland '71; Dennis Stamper '72; and John Hiott '76 attended an April coeducation exhibit and reception.

3

While Stamper, who transferred from Methodist College, had heard there was some pushback to men attending, he felt welcomed. Listen to his full oral history interview.

Billy Powell '75 was not only one of the first men to graduate from Winthrop but one of the first African-American students as well.

Powell grew up in Chester County's Cabal community with his widowed mother and nine siblings.

After being drafted, he served in the military until he returned home in 1955, earning a two-year degree from Friendship Junior College.

“By 1966, I was 35 years old and had not finished school at the level I wanted,” Powell said. “The boards and committees that I served on at that time were a constant reminder that I needed to increase my education.”

He enrolled at Winthrop, earning a degree in political science and sociology as a non-traditional student.

“Winthrop was one of the best things to happen to me,” he said.

Similarly, Steve Penland '71, who owns Penland Tree Farm in York, had grown up in the area.

Winthrop was one of the best things to happen to me. -Billy Powell

He recalled seeing the Blue Line marching to church. Because Winthrop was still accepting only females when he graduated high school, he enrolled at Clemson University. He left after three years and entered the workforce. When Winthrop began accepting day-time male students on a trial basis in 1969, friends encouraged him to transfer.

“ ”

“I only have great memories of Winthrop,” Penland said. “I developed a great friendship with several of my math and physics professors and kept in contact with them. I met my wife, Judy, and we were married during my senior year.”

The Winthrop legacy has continued for Penland: his wife is a 1970 graduate; daughter Stephanie graduated in 2003; granddaughter Kayleigh Moses currently attends; and his grandson's wife, Dallas Moses, is a 2023 graduate.

“Without Winthrop changing to a coeducational school, I would never have achieved my degree,” Penland said. “I would not have obtained the jobs I had during my life or developed the friendships that grew from my experience. Thank you, Winthrop, for allowing men to attend.”

End Of Page 3

Start Of Page 4

alumni center was housed in a third-floor office in Tillman Hall.

A WELCOMING FRONT PORCH

As a member of the Alumni Executive Board and a dedicated alumni volunteer, Pat Plexico Boutwell '84 thought she knew almost everything related to Winthrop's history.

But a visit to the university's new Morgan-Holcombe Alumni Center at the Stewart House challenged that assumption. While perusing the historical exhibits and décor, Boutwell spotted a photo she had never seen before of her great-grandmother, Hannah Hemphill Coleman, who had served on the committee in the 1800s that helped determine a new, permanent location for Winthrop. (The institution began in 1886 as the Winthrop Training School in Columbia but has called Rock Hill home for more than 130 years.)

With the opening of the center, forging those connections between alumni of the past and present – and bringing current and prospective students and the community into the fold – happens every day.

Forget the image of a crumbling building full of cobwebs and dusty tomes: the 1800s-era, Classical Revival-style, two-story house has transformed into a museum chronicling the institution's history from its foundation as a women's teaching college to its current status as a premier regional public comprehensive university. The center featured sections dedicated to pivotal moments such as integration and coeducation, uniforms the students were once

required to wear, artifacts from the early 1900s, and more.

“Dedicated this past June, the Morgan-Holcombe Alumni Center is an opportunity for us to showcase Winthrop history to our alumni, students and their families,” said Lori Tuttle, executive director of alumni relations and reunion giving. “We always want to provide opportunities for alumni to come visit, especially when big things are happening on campus.”

The special place Winthrop holds for its graduates The Stewart House was built in 1895 by Captain W.H. Stewart of Fort Mill, a prosperous farmer and member of the State House of Representatives. The university purchased the home upon Stewart’s death in 1912 for \$10,000. Known in those days as the Practice House, the structure was used by Winthrop seniors to gain experience living independently and managing a “typical rural Southern home,” including house-keeping, cooking, gardening, poultry-raising and beekeeping. As times changed, the International Center, Admissions Office and Visitors Center, the S.C. Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention and Advancement, and other offices called Stewart House home.

In 2011, Winthrop announced a \$1 million gift from Betty Morgan Holcombe ’56 and her husband, Milton, for the dedication of a stand-alone alumni center at Winthrop. For years, the

In 2022, the Winthrop Board of Trustees voted to make the Stewart House the Morgan-Holcombe Alumni Center. In June 2023, the Alumni Association and Winthrop Foundation staff moved into the Stewart House, and the transformation into an historical alumni center began. Unlike its previous location, the new center boasts a convenient parking lot and stands a short distance from the Admissions office at the front entrance of campus, making it a convenient stop for prospective students, alumni and families.

The Holcombes' twin daughters, Karen and Kathryn Holcombe, attended the June 27 dedication on behalf of their parents to see their mom's dream come to fruition.

"This highlights the special place Winthrop holds for its graduates and how their experiences here shaped their future and fostered a lifetime of learning," Karen Holcombe said. "Both our mother and father came from humble beginnings.... Education was the key to their success."

Showcasing the history Gina Price White '83 and Brittany Pigford '99, director and archivist, respectively, with the Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections, helped select historical moments to spotlight in the center and archival pieces that should live there permanently and discussed how everything could be presented for visitors. Some highlights inside the center are:

*The original Tillman Hall chimes console, which hundreds of students through the years played on the hour to signify the time to the campus community;

*A hand-carved ceremonial chair used by David Bancroft Johnson, Winthrop's founder and first president, at academic functions;

*A collection of Tatlers, Winthrop's former year-book;

The Holcombes' daughters, Kathryn and Karen, attended the dedication and caught up with longtime family friends Mike and Lou Ann Pursley.

*A small-scale reproduction of the navy and white uniforms Winthrop students were required to wear in the late 1800s and early 1900s;

*An array of tablewear and serving sets used by students in the former dining hall; and

*A dedicated library for alumni authors.

Multiple interior walls of the house feature photos and context for notable events such as a chronology of the institution's first year; the move to integration in 1964 and Winthrop's subsequent Black history; and the 20-year journey to coeducation, achieved in 1974. "Not to mention all the versions of Winthrop's alma mater through the years," laughed Pigford.

"I can't tell you the sense of accomplishment I felt from the first day we walked into the Stewart House in September 2023 to the day of dedication in June 2024," she said. "It was one of my favorite projects to have been a part of in my 25 years at Winthrop."

5

End Of Page 4

Start Of Page 5

Some of Mickney's design plans for various spaces.

Design Envy LLC's Sarah Mickney hangs photos on the integration and Black history wall.

Lisa Raye Hund '93, '94, '98, left, and Myra Hope Roulette '72, '74, '80, selected jars of honey, which were given to all attendees at the alumni center dedication.

Displayed items include a photograph of D.B. Johnson, Mary Yeargin and Hannah Hemphill, who identified Rock Hill as the location where Winthrop would move from its Columbia origin.

a game and shouted 'Hey, Tom! What do we have

Opportunity of a lifetime But the content itself couldn't come to life without some flair – and that's where Design Envy LLC's Sarah Mickney came in.

The local designer earned a marketing degree in college but found her true passion while design- ing her own home, which led to others asking her to envision and decorate their spaces. As Tuttle embarked with White and Pigford on reimagining the alumni center space, she asked Mickney to stop by and help hang some pictures.

“As soon as I pulled into the parking lot and saw the gorgeous trees and the house's profile and the porch with the columns and shutters, I was like, 'I'm in heaven. I want to buy this house!’” Mickney recalled. “Then we went in, and my jaw dropped....[The project] went from hanging a few pictures to an explosion of creativity.”

Mickney turned to Winthrop's Garnet and Gold Book to see where that creativity could take the project. The Alumni Association annually prints and distributes the soft-cover book that shares history, traditions and fun facts with incoming students.

6

“Once we got the scope of work established, ex- citation was an understatement,” Mickney said of the project's beginning. “It was an honor and the opportunity of a lifetime, and an opportunity to step outside of my comfort zone in terms of learning so much about Winthrop.”

She strived to marry the alumni center's con- temporary modern aesthetic with antiques and the history, as well as incorporate eclectic and transitional vibes.

“Merging those two things was obvious because of the age and style of the home, and bringing in a modern, updated feel was essential to not only honor the history of Winthrop, the house and what it was used for,” she said, “but also allow alumni and current students

the opportunity to come through and feel like they're at home and experience the timelessness there.”

Since the dedication, one feature that has captivated visitors is the custom wallpaper in the hallway where the first-year chronology of Winthrop is presented. Thanks to Archives, Mickney took a copy of a letter dated Sept. 13, 1886, in which President Johnson writes to his mother that he

had successfully secured the \$1,500 needed to establish a teaching school for women in South Carolina, enlarged it and had it made into wallpaper. A framed copy of the letter is displayed so visitors can read for themselves the details of this pivotal moment of Winthrop's foundation.

Walking through the center, visitors are in awe of the historical touches, statement-making window treatments, and pops of pink and navy, which Mickney said harken to Winthrop's former navy and white school colors as well as the “feminine nature of pink” for an institution that once served women.

This is our front porch Tuttle looks forward to how the Morgan-Holcombe Alumni Center at the Stewart House already is becoming more ingrained in the Winthrop and Rock Hill communities.

The Stewart House was featured in the Historic Rock Hill's Tour of Homes in September and will continue to be featured in the City of Rock Hill's annual salute to spring, the Come-See-Me Festival.

The Alumni Association has begun hosting events at the center, including alumni board receptions. During Senior Week, soon-to-be graduates stopped by the center for professional headshots. The center also hosts events for Winthrop Legacy students, who are recognized on campus as the undergraduate children, grandchildren, or siblings of alumni.

For November's Homecoming and Reunion Weekend, alumni will attend the class reunion welcome reception at the new center...and that is only the beginning.

"This is our front porch," President Edward Serna '02 said proudly to those gathered at the dedication. "We wanted to make a statement that while you were maybe a Winthrop student for four or more years, you are going to be an alumna or alumnus for much longer. Their journey as part of the Winthrop family doesn't end when they walk across the stage and get that diploma. The Stewart House will welcome home our alumni for years to come."

7

End Of Page 5

Start Of Page 6

(1) Casey Munn Ferri '09, president-elect of the Alumni Association Executive Board, welcomed everyone to the dedication. (2) Pat Plexico Boutwell '84 looked at framed newspaper articles regarding coeducation. (3) An attendee spent time reading articles on integration and Black history. (4) Joyce Argo '98, '99, '06, read the letter D.B. Johnson wrote his mother notifying her that he had successfully secured the \$1,500 needed to establish a teaching school for women in South Carolina. (5) Brenda Floyd '07, '09, recreated an 1886 Winthrop uniform based on artifacts in the Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections. (6) Janet Rice Smalley '72, a trustee, perused tea sets and other serving ware. (7) Lori Tuttle, left, executive director of alumni relations and reunion giving, smiled with Sarah Mickney of Design Envy LLC. Mickney was the lead creative on re-envisioning the Stewart House space.

1 2 3

4

5

6

7

End Of Page 6

Start Of Page 7

Academic Affairs Projects Lead: Sebastian van Delden 1. Academic Program Innovation Criminal Justice, Supply Chain and Logistics, and Design with Game Design Concentration launched this fall. Ed.D. In Leadership and Innovation, AI, FinTech and Software Engineering to launch fall 2025.

WINTHROP: UNITED IN EXCELLENCE UNVEILED

“It’s time to get to work.” President Edward Serna concluded a Sept. 5 gathering with faculty, staff and students with these simple, yet powerful, words, following a presentation that debuted the 12 initiatives that will serve as the first phase of the university’s strategic plan, Winthrop: United in Excellence.

Input from the planning process, which began in March 2023, yielded the following 12 initiatives,

which will be overseen by the listed division’s vice president. The initiatives will be implemented through June 2025, and progress updates will be reported to the Board of Trustees at the board’s regularly scheduled meetings and to the campus throughout the year.

Read details about each initiative, and their corresponding success metrics, on the strategic plan website.

2. Winthrop Elevate Launch Adult degree completion program based on Competency-Based Education modality. Bachelor of Professional Studies starts this spring. See story on p. 16.

3. Honors College Launch Transformation of longstanding program into a college that “leads with leadership” under the direction of recently tapped Dean Nick Grossoehme.

Enrollment Management and Marketing Projects Lead: Joseph Miller 4. Branding and Marketing Initiative Evaluation and strengthening of brand to create a comprehensive strategy that will unify marketing efforts across the university. Potential partner currently being determined through RFP.

5. Tuition Transparency Initiative Following an 8 percent tuition reduction this fall, the initiative’s year 2 will evaluate both the undergraduate and graduate tuition and fees structure to strategically optimize costs of delivery with net price.

RECENT TIMELINE RECENT TIMELINE July 2022

Edward A. Serna ‘02 becomes 12th president of Winthrop University

April 2024 Board of Trustees approves plan II

July 2025 – June 2026 Phase 2

Student Affairs Projects Lead: Shelia Burkhalter 6. Campus Life Elevation Enhancement of student life and traditions by offering varied, meaningful events that help students to feel connected and build lasting relationships.

March – Dec 2023

Strategic planning process with partner BRG

10 I

July 2024 – June 2025 Phase 1

III

July 2026 – June 2027 Phase 3

University Advancement Projects Lead: Kevin Hughes 7. Data Health Initiative Full wealth screening of Winthrop's alumni/ donor database, as well as an audit and update of alumni contact information.

8. Annual Giving Investment Addition of frontline fundraiser to focus on growing the number of leadership annual fund donors (gifts of \$1,000+) and upgrading existing donors.

Athletics Projects Lead: Chuck Rey 9. Athletics Fundraising Investment Development officer position with dual reporting to Athletics and University Advancement to increase donor sponsorships, annual and major gifts, and more.

Human Resources, Employee Diversity and Wellness Projects Lead: Lisa Cowart 10. Professional Development Initiative Development and delivery of enhanced professional development opportunities for faculty and staff resulting in higher levels of employee satisfaction.

Finance and Business Projects Lead: Kevin Butler 11. Budget Process Overhaul Evaluation of resource allocation at Winthrop and creation of a simplified, transparent and inclusive budget process.

12. Campus Roadmap With partner Gordian Sightlines, alignment of strategic plan, campus master plan and academic master plan to produce a 10- year roadmap for facilities and computing/ technology projects.

Visit the strategic plan website to learn more. 11

End Of Page 7

Start Of Page 8

Mother and daughter were amused to find out they were both assigned to the same dorm, Phelps Hall. “That’s so crazy,” Kinsley said, adding that she’s proud to be following in her mother’s footsteps.

FINDING LOVE AND CREATING A LEGACY

David ’97 and Courtney Peek ’99 fell in love with each other and Winthrop around the baseball diamond.

As student-athletes during the late 1990s, David pitched for the baseball team and Courtney for the softball team.

As David tells it, he was the first recruit in 1992 as Winthrop started its foray into Division I baseball. Then-Coach Joe Hudak recruited the lanky Tennessee native to the team, and together the Eagles took the institution’s first trip to the regionals four years later.

Courtney arrived a couple of years behind David. The coaches, seeing a budding romance, decided to use it to motivate them into better performances in what turned into a healthy competition.

The two feel connected to Winthrop for many reasons. “We loved the family atmosphere, the beauty of the campus and the down home feel,” said David, who now owns auto repair and real estate businesses in Forest, Virginia.

The couple didn’t push their four children to attend Winthrop but three of them did.

12

Proud to be part of the Winthrop family “We always took our kids by Winthrop and told them where we met, where we lived and for several of the kids to have the opportunity to go to school, it just fell into place,” Courtney said. “Our kids consider it an honor and are proud to be part of the Winthrop family.”

Like his parents, Zach took to the pitcher’s mound with gusto. Recruited by the Eagles, he played college ball for three years until he was drafted in 2019 to play for the Los Angeles Angels organization and then later traded to the Baltimore Orioles. He is currently rostered with the Double A Bowie Baysox.

Their second child, Brady, played Rocket League with Winthrop’s first esports team. The team won the university’s first national championship during the COVID pandemic. Brady then opted to go on a mission trip for two years to Brazil. Third son Bailey considered playing baseball at Winthrop but ultimately decided to play elsewhere.

Contributing to the family legacy The Peeks’ only daughter, Kinsley, is a freshman playing outfield and first base for the softball team.

Kinsley remembers when she was in elementary school, she met the late Softball Coach Mark Cooke and his assistant coach, Kendall Fuller. “I met Coach Fuller, who’s now my coach, when I was 8 years old,” Kinsley said.

Now a college athlete, Kinsley is busy this fall semester starting her human nutrition major classes, attending practices and workouts, participating in community service, and bonding with her teammates. It didn’t take her long to see a familiar face this semester, she said, noting that she saw a picture of her brother, Zach, on the wall at the Coliseum.

Her parents expect to be in the stands this year to watch the softball team’s fall series and then in the spring when the season starts. “We’re on campus every month or two,” David said.

Over the years, David has pointed out his team’s regionals banner to his family. “It’s important for our children to see that and to know that this is our heritage,” he said of Winthrop, a place where the next generation is contributing to the family’s legacy.

About the Legacy Program • The Legacy Program recognizes current Winthrop undergraduate students whose parents, grandparents or siblings are Winthrop alumni. The Winthrop Alumni Association offers exclusive events for legacy students and their families.

- There are 443 legacy students enrolled for the fall 2024 semester.
- For more information about the Legacy Program, e-mail Brittany Neely ’14, alumni engagement coordinator, or visit the legacy program website.

Courtney, Zack and David at a game.

David and Courtney Peek

Kinsley Peek

Zack Peek

13

End Of Page 8

Start Of Page 9

brother, Patrick Turney '10, '12, served as the director of soccer operations for the Winthrop men's soccer team and was the right-hand man for former coach and Winthrop Athletics Hall of Fame Member Rich Posipanko. "Soccer has always been a family thing, so having Patrick at Winthrop with me was the final piece of the puzzle that made Winthrop home for me," Turney said.

The groundwork for Turney's preparation started at Winthrop where she majored in physical education with an emphasis in athletic training. "I was very lucky to work in athletic training and to play on the women's soccer team," Turney said, adding that she also is a member of Chi Omega sorority. "I loved it all," she said.

PERFORMING AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL

Kelly Turney '08 didn't have a free moment during her four years at Winthrop, and that's the way she liked it.

As the head athletic trainer with the Orlando Pride professional women's soccer team since January 2023, Turney knows that her Winthrop years prepared her well for a career. In her nearly two years on the job, she has watched the team's players turn into superstars.

“It is a very fast-paced and challenging environment,” Turney said. “We work with a great group of women who play soccer at the highest level.”

The team has qualified for the Nov. 9 playoffs and hopes to be in the Nov. 23 championship. The team set records for the longest winning streak and most consecutive unbeaten matches.

In addition to playing home games in Orlando, the Pride travels the country to play the other 13

14

teams. The medical team travels to every match, attends practices and monitors conditioning for the 32-member team, so they can help evaluate and treat a wide array of injuries and problems.

“If anything physical is going on, I am there,” Turney said.

Ready to take the leap Before Turney took the Pride job, she earned a master’s degree in human resources at Clemson University and then worked since 2009 in college athletics at Clemson, the University of Virginia and at the University of Kansas. “I felt like I was ready to take the leap,” Turney said. “It was a good step and has been wonderful so far.”

Growing up on a horse farm in Versailles, Kentucky, Turney was drawn to the sport in which her father, Tim Turney, excelled. He played and coached soccer, achieving such success that he is in the Kentucky Soccer Hall of Fame. Her

A dream experience She speaks fondly of her mentor, Professor Alice McLaine, and former Athletic Trainer Jeffrey Lahr. She called McLaine an amazing professor who merged the

classroom instruction with hands-on training. Lahr showed her how to work with athletes and helped care for her during three shoulder surgeries during her college years.

“Those four years in college at Winthrop were better than anything I could dream college would have been,” she said. “It helped form me into the athletic trainer I am today and gave me the start to have such an incredible career.”

When Turney travels the country, she said the different parts of her life collide. Her Winthrop soccer teammates, other athletic trainers and sorority sisters live in different parts of the country and she can reach out to connect with them.

“My job is rewarding in so many different ways,” she said. “I see a lot of different people, and it is wonderful.”

Turney tends to an injured player during a match. 15

Turney joined Chi Omega sorority at Winthrop.

Turney with her brother, Patrick.

End Of Page 9

Start Of Page 10

FALL 2024

Winthrop Retains U.S. News Ranking, Earns Voter Engagement Award

For the second year in a row, Winthrop ranked fifth overall among public universities in the South, according to U.S. News & World Report’s 2025 edition of “Best Colleges.” The

continued high ranking, along with appearances in subcategories for best value, best for veterans and for social mobility, reflects the university's demonstrated commitment to providing a quality, and affordable, education for its students. Winthrop was listed as 12th among regional public and private universities in the South. Additionally, Winthrop received a Silver Award from the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge for fostering high levels of student voter engagement in the 2022 midterm elections.

CAMPUS NEWS Nearly \$3 Million Secured in Science Research Grants

The National Science Foundation recently awarded Winthrop a \$2 million grant to pay for scholarships for 30 students majoring in chemistry, computer science or mathematics. The overall goal of the grant is to increase the completion of degrees by high-achieving undergraduates from low-income backgrounds in an initiative called the TIPS Scholars Program. It will also contribute to the regional and national need for well-educated scientists, mathematicians and engineers.

Winthrop Elevate to Help Adults Complete Degrees

Winthrop will launch a transformative, proven approach to adult and professional learning with a new Competency-Based Education (CBE) modality, entitled Elevate, in January 2025.

This new modality will provide a unique and flexible approach to higher education that allows students to advance through their coursework based on the ability to master a skill or competency at their own pace.

The first degree program to be offered through this innovative modality is the Bachelor of Professional Studies which includes four concentration options: health informatics, organizational leadership, organizational operations, and community and health services.

Applications for the B.P.S. program are currently being accepted.

Learn more about Winthrop Elevate.

The project is under the direction of Professor Robin Lammi, chair of the Department of Chemistry, Physics, Geology and the Environment. It will launch in May 2025 and continue through 2031.

In addition, Associate Professor of Biology Daniel Stovall received an \$800,000 federal grant that will allow him to study how a particular protein is involved in driving aggressive brain cancers. Stovall is the first faculty member at Winthrop to receive the Support for Research Excellence First Independent Research (SuRE-First) Award from the National Institutes of Health's National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. Stovall and his students will use the grant to study how a gene, RYBP, is altered in the cells of the most common and lethal central nervous system tumor called glioblastoma.

Byrnes Auditorium Reopening Soon

Offline since 2018 due to a roof fire and insurance delays, Byrnes Auditorium construction work is wrapping up and the building will reopen in early 2025 for university and community events. The work, which was funded by the state, Winthrop and insurance settlement funds, included a new elevator from the lobby to the second floor, restroom

expansion, accessibility features, plaster repair/new paint, new stage rigging, flooring and curtain, and much more. Offsite cleaning of the D.B. Johnson Memorial Organ is wrapping up as well, and programming is currently in the works to celebrate the building's much-anticipated reopening. Look for more details to be shared soon.

End Of Page 10

Start Of Page 11

FALL 2024

Donor's Gift Assists with Women's Basketball Facilities Updates

An anonymous donor with a life-long love for basketball knew a gift to the Women's Basketball Excellence Fund would be a slam dunk for the program. The generous gift has funded updates for the program's locker rooms, staff offices, study room and more.

The donor, a Winthrop graduate, decided that making the gift now meant being able to witness in person the gift's powerful impact on the program. "I knew I wanted to make a gift to Winthrop and had planned to do something special. I decided that I didn't want to put off making my gift because I want to enjoy watching the gift in action," the donor said. "I have gotten to know players, the staff and our incredible Head Coach Semeka Randall Lay, and I know that the program's goal is to be the best team on the court and in the classroom. That's a goal I can support and appreciate."

Randall Lay, now in her fourth year as head coach of the Lady Eagles, was named to the 2024 American Basketball Hall of Fame and captured her 100th coaching victory last season. Her storied career as a player coached by the legendary Pat Summit at the University of Tennessee included earning Kodak All-America First Team honors in 1999 and 2000, helping the team win the 1998 NCAA Championship and being named the Women's Basketball Journal's Defensive Player of the

caption...

Year in 1999 and 2000. She then spent four years in the WNBA and playing overseas.

“During a time when women’s basketball as a whole is experiencing much deserved recognition and promotion, I am especially grateful that our program has dedicated and enthusiastic supporters who want to help us make a difference in the lives of these student-athletes and who are quick to get others on board with our efforts,” said Randall Lay. “Our program takes great pride in not only providing our players with a state-of-the-art space to play the sport they love, but also empowering them with a great education and life skills that will transfer to the work- force after their playing days are over.”

The donor is excited about the upcoming season and how the new upgrades will help create an electric atmosphere that resonates with current and prospective student-athletes. “I believe in Winthrop, in this program and its student-athletes. I’m thrilled that my gift can help create an environment that stellar players want to call home. The sky is the limit with the Lady Eagles team under the leadership of such a phenomenal coach. I would encourage other donors and those in Rock Hill not to overlook what Winthrop has to offer. Our coach is a Hall of Famer who is doing great things with this program, and I’m so glad to know her and witness what she and her staff are preparing these ladies for both on and off the court.”

Human Nutrition Program Benefits from Two Sizeable Gifts

Many alumni direct their charitable giving to programs where they have an interest and see value. Barbara C. Hannah ’91, who earned a master’s degree in human nutrition, and her husband, Frank, established two sizeable funds in April. They are:

*The Barbara C. Hannah Endowment for Faculty Enrichment in Human Nutrition which will provide funds to the human nutrition department. It will offer support for faculty research, professional development, travel, course replacement stipends and additional faculty support as determined by the dean of the College of Arts & Sciences in collaboration with the department chair.

*The Barbara C. Hannah Restricted Fund for Human Nutrition which will provide funds to buy equipment and supplies for lab spaces within the human nutrition department, or as a

second option, the money will be used to support professional development for students within the department.

The Hannahs further established an additional restricted fund in conjunction with their faculty enrichment endowment in order to provide an immediate faculty award while the endowment fund is building in the investment pool. Jessie Hoffman, who is a registered dietitian, assistant professor and researcher in the field of human nutrition, will be the first to benefit from the Hannah fund. Her dietetic and research expertise is in gastrointestinal conditions and the gut microbiome.

ADVANCEMENT NEWS

Recurring Gift Option Provides Steady Support

Committing to a recurring gift is an easy and convenient way to support Winthrop. This option provides you with the flexibility to set up a recurring gift to deduct on a consistent timeframe of your choosing. Many alumni have embraced the giving option.

Sarah Hoffman

“I love the reassurance of knowing that my gift will continue through monthly payments and seeing it in my monthly statements. It’s a way of honoring the memory of my friend, Lacey Long ’09, and turn-

ing the loss into a positive development in the world.”

Sarah Hoffman, Ph.D. ’09, ’11 research scientist, Carelon

LaRaven Temoney Louis

“I give to Winthrop because my alma mater poured into me in ways I couldn’t imagine. From 2015-18, I received scholarships, traveled on behalf of Winthrop and received countless other resources and connections that con-

tinued to shape me. I give because someone’s gift made a difference in my life!”

LaRaven Temoney Louis ’18 political science professor, Valencia College

For information on giving opportunities, please visit www.winthrop.edu/give or call 803/323-2275. 18 19

End Of Page 11

Start Of Page 12

FALL 2024

ALUMNI NEWS

Homecoming and Reunion is Here!

The Alumni Association looks forward to welcoming you home for Homecoming and Reunion Week, Nov. 4-9. There are so many events planned such as campus tours, an alumni choir concert, theatre productions, tailgating, basketball and volleyball games, distinguished lectures, and so much more. Visit www.winthrop.edu/homecoming for details on events.

Connect with Fellow Alumni

To connect with fellow alumni, join Winthrop Connect, the Alumni Association's exclusive online networking platform for alumni! Create a profile to connect with fellow alumni, join an alumni community, search and post jobs, browse the alumni business directory, offer mentoring services and more.

Visit winthropconnect.org to join!

WINTHROP CONNECT

JOIN

Congratulations to the Newest Alumni Award Recipients

The Alumni Association will recognize five alumni at the Nov. 7 Alumni Awards Celebration. Please read more about these deserving recipients and what they have contributed to Winthrop, and their communities and professions.

Mary Mildred Sullivan Award: Glenda Owens '59

Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award: Eddie Lee '83

Alumni Distinguished Service Award: Erin Duffy Patel '07, '09

Alumni Professional Achievement Award: The Honorable DeAndrea Gist Benjamin '94

Outstanding Young Alumni Award: Jeffrey Robinson '14, '20

20 21

If you are interested in becoming more involved with your alma mater, consider becoming an alumni volunteer with the Alumni Association! Volunteer opportunities include Alumni Chapter leaders,

ALUMNI WEEKEND BLACK

Black Alumni Weekend is Coming Back

Save the date for Black Alumni Weekend, April 10-13. Events will include alumni networking, community service opportunities, a picnic on the Campus Green and more! Registration will open in early 2025, and all are invited!

Get Involved and Become an Alumni Volunteer

Young Alumni Council leaders, alumni community leaders and class reunion volunteers.

E-mail alumni@winthrop.edu for more information.

2025

End Of Page 12

Start Of Page 13

FALL 2024

1950 Dot Smith Fant of Anderson was awarded the 28th annual Jo Brown Senior Citizen of the Year Award at Anderson County's Golden Years Jamboree.

1974 Beverly Carroll of Rock Hill was honored by South Carolina Lawyers Weekly in its inaugural class of "Influential Women of Law."

1984 Nick Stonestreet of Alpharetta, Georgia, was named the president of financial services for DLP Capital.

1986 Seberina Barber Myles '86, '88, '00, of Rock Hill was named interim principal at York Middle School.

Eddie Lee '83, a professor of history at Winthrop, recently received the Order of the Palmetto from Gov. Henry McMaster. The award is South Carolina's highest civilian honor and recognizes lifetime achievements and contributions that have significantly benefited the state. Read more about his award.

22

1987 Jay Forrest '87, '90, of Clover was awarded the Order of the Palmetto for his 30 years of excellence in music education in the Clover School District.

1989 Jennifer Moorefield '89, '97, of Greenville was appointed as a representative for education and training on Greenville County Workforce Development Board's executive committee and as a chairperson of the board's S.C. Works Committee.

1990 Jack Bagwell Jr. '90, '93, of Elizabeth City, North Carolina, was named 2024 President of the Year by the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges for his accomplishments as president of College of The Albemarle.

Cathy Garner of Inman was named principal of Pacolet Elementary School.

1993 Kimberly Childress Penland of Laurens was named principal of Ford Elementary School.

1994 Joel Eaves of Taylors sang the National Anthem at a Greenville Drive baseball game.

Mark Sexton of Fort Mill was appointed director of parks, recreation and tourism for the city of Rock Hill.

Scott Slatton is Summerville's new town administrator.

1999 Jeff Davis of Columbia was selected by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit as a bankruptcy judge in the District of South Carolina.

Jocquin Fuller '99, '05, of Fort Mill was named Teacher of the Year for Fort Mill School District 4.

Ayesha Hunter was named senior executive director of employee relations for Durham Public Schools in Durham, North Carolina.

2000 Carlos Littlejohn of Greenville was named director of pupil services for Laurens County School District 55.

2002 Trent Faris of Catawba was designated a public information officer by the Commission on Professional Credentialing. He is the master public information officer for the York County Sheriff's Office.

Judit Trunkos '02, '06, was recognized with a Distinguished Teaching Award from the Robert Morris University Student Government Association.

2003 Courtney Jackson of Piedmont was named assistant principal at Laurens Middle School.

Stephanie Johnson of Richmond, Texas, received a certificate of appreciation from the U.S. Department of Treasury in recognition of her contribution to the organization's effective and efficient operations.

2006 Ashley Gedris Taylor of Bennettsville was named principal of Pate Elementary School in Darlington County.

Jermaine Whirl of Augusta, Georgia, was selected for his second Titan 100 Award, which recognizes the top 100 CEOs in Georgia.

2007 Alison Rauch of Greer was named the Make-A-Wish South Carolina W.I.S.H. Woman of the Year.

Mabra Herlong Wayman '07, '11, of Rock Hill was named principal of Riverview Elementary School.

2008 Greg Adamson of Knoxville, Tennessee, earned the title of master strength and conditioning coach by the Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association.

Dave Carton '08, '11, of Fort Mill was named head coach of Westchester Soccer Club.

2010 Patrice Green of Rock Hill was named principal of Carolina Springs Middle School in Lexington County.

Blair Laney Waters of Hampstead, North Carolina, was selected for the Military Spouse Advocacy Network's Fall 2024 Military Spouse Leadership Development Program cohort.

2012

Kelsey Grizzle Brown of Fountain Inn was one of 12 teachers selected for the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching Fellows Program.

2013 Stephanie Johnson Ard of Latta was named superintendent of the Latta School District.

2014 Alexandria Savage of Shreveport, Louisiana, was named one of the Young Professionals Initiative of Northwest Louisiana's 40 Under Forty nominees.

2015 Taylor Dickson of Gastonia won his second Korn Ferry Tour title at the Wichita Open.

2016

Michaela Bishop Arthur of Culloden, West Virginia, was named employee of the year at Marshall University.

2017 John Collins of Clinton was named the head coach of the men's tennis program at the University of North Florida.

CLASS NOTES

23

End Of Page 13

Start Of Page 14

CLASS NOTES

FALL 2024

Jordan Lewis, formerly of New Haven, Connecticut, accepted a role as a research assistant professor in the biology department at the University of South Carolina.

Riley Lynch of Baldwin, New York, became the pastor at Calvary Protestant Church.

Alex Nowlin of McLean, Virginia, was an honoree for Maverick PAC's 2024 Future40 Award.

Vivian Segnini of Richmond, Virginia, became the player relations manager at the Women's Tennis Association.

2018 Teddi Lynette Thomas of North Charleston starred in a two-woman show with The Void Theater Company.

Ashley Sloup Sease of Southport, North Carolina, joined the University of Florida women's golf team as an assistant coach.

2019

Clay Bryant '19, '20, of Rock Hill was named assistant principal intern at York Middle School.

Andrew Parker of Homer, New York, was appointed the assistant director of athletics for sports performance in the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics at Ithaca College.

Ximena Perez Velazco of Carrboro, North Carolina, received an Impact Award from the Graduate School of UNC Chapel Hill for her research.

Sean Riehm of Daniel Island cowrote an original musical, “Dandelion,” which premiered at the Trustus Theatre in August.

2020 Téa Franco of Indianapolis, Indiana, released her debut short story collection, “You Could Be That Kind of Girl,” in August.

2021 La J'ai Reed '21, '23, of Rock Hill was named the Southern Conference's student-athlete engagement coordinator.

2022

Ellen Borland of Fort Mill was named principal of Pleasant Knoll Middle School.

Megan Russell of Tega Cay is a kindergarten teacher at York Road Elementary School.

Bryn Eddy, formerly of Fort Mill, became editor of The Lexington County Chronicle.

2023

Miguel Caldwell of Camden was selected as Rock Hill Schools' Beginning Teacher of the Year.

Logan Elrod of Rock Hill is the digital communications manager at Visit York County.

2024

Gavin Anderson of Lancaster is a software developer for Comporium, Inc.

Darren Frasier of Johns Island accepted a position in the video department for the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Breanna Gayle of Florence joined Williams Middle School as a sixth-grade resource teacher.

Taylor Phelan Gehret of Myrtle Beach joined Carolina Forest Elementary School as a fourth-grade teacher.

IN MEMORIAM

1940s Bessie Boyter Mundy '44 Virginia Hart '45 Wilma Massey Peebles '47 Rebecca Kennedy McDaniel '48 Helen Keng-Ting Chuan '49 Virginia Prince Clemons '49 Mildred Pettit Ragan '49

1950s

Bobbie Anders Ford '50 Lora (Ann) Jones Hord '51 Lucia Agnew Bryson '53 Mary Allen Hinson '53 Betty Yonce Jackson '53 Betty Holmes Gray '54 Laura Belcher Odom '54 Jane Warner Peay '54 Julian Prothro Voigt '54 Margaret Morrow Floyd '55 Hazel Bell Gerrald '55 Polly Collins Horger '55 Elizabeth Long Naffziger '55 Annelle Lightsey Smith-McCaskey '55

Maydelle McCrackin Johnson '56 Elizabeth Carter Steedly '56 Marcia Haile Warren '57
Betty Dunlap Bridges '58 Harriett Kowalski Cook '58 Jerlyn Bain Hutto '58 Arlene O'Cain
Keller '58 Peggy Davis Robeson '58 Lurline Simpson Umenhofer '58

24

Grace Pettit Casey '59 Edna Snelgrove Elledge '59 Betty Lutz Wilke '59

1960s

Nancy Justice Quarles '62 Catherine Rhame Noblett '63 Sarah Ione Sanders '63 Linda Gail
Kingsmore '64 Joan Searcy Nance '64 Marian McKeown Bailey '65 Mary Bradley Heath '65
Brenda Price Vassy '65 Mary Linda Chimpen '66 Carol Ann Barnes Davis '66 Ann Elaine
Gilmore '66 Mary Elizabeth Carver '67 Mary Ehrhardt Ferrara '67 Teresa Keith Hamilton '67
Deborah Owen Lawrence '67 Judith (Judy) Gatch Free '68 Mary Jo James Sherbert '68

1970s

Catherine (Holly) Tilghman Swartz '70 Barbara McSwain Clinton '71 Brenda Guthrie Elliot
'71 Allison Biggers Wilson '71 Sue McDonald Ferguson '72 Harriet Rhyne Peoples '72 Betty
Bleakley Westbury '72 Carole Lee Parker '73 Connie Parrott Waldrup '73 Susan Undari
Young '73 Sarah Armstrong Lloyd '74 Sherry Reavis McHugh '74 Herbert Charles Munn '74

Arsonia Stroud '74

Suzanne Williams Chesnut '75 Lula Goree Collier '75 Vicky Oswald Dean '75 Mary Lee
Hobson McIntosh '75 Margaret Reynolds Hill '76 Patricia Faile Wise '76 James Edward
Good '77 Lester O. Jones '77 Pauline Rebecca Bost '78 Elma Orton Wright '79

1980s Deborah Leigh Cowan '80 Dan Urscheler '80 Candice A. Smith '82 Donna Faulkenberry Pardue '83

Betty Hopper Thomasson '85 Susan Landrum McCarthy '87

1990s

John Daniel Lewis '91 Laurie Anne Roberts '93 Harold Sanders Seawright '93 Sarah Burguson Strait '95 Capresha Dawne Caldwell '98

2000s Mark Stanley Byrd '01 Jason Richard Poag '01 Joseph (Joe) Francis Bach '03 Joseph (Joe) Neely Burton '03 Cynthia Rudder Millsaps '03 Chad Hinton '04

2010s Ian Christian Lee '13 25

MARRIAGES

Jessica Van Cleave '18 to Brandon Anselmo '19

Griffin Jolie Rohrer '19 to Trey McGarity

End Of Page 14

Start Of Page 15

University Communications and Marketing 200 Tillman Hall Rock Hill, SC 29733

Electronic Service Requested

If you are a parent of a recent graduate and your son or daughter no longer resides at this address, please call 803/323-2145 or email alumni@winthrop.edu so we can update our information.

NON-PROFIT US POSTAGE PAID

COLUMBIA, SC PERMIT NO. 535

At Winthrop, our community is like a beautiful puzzle — each piece unique and vital to completing the whole picture. We invite you to join our monthly giving program, where your support fits perfectly into our mission of fostering student success and innovation.

Your monthly contribution will be a key piece in providing scholarships, enhancing academic programs, and supporting essential campus initiatives. And, as a token of our gratitude, you'll receive an exclusive Winthrop puzzle! This limited-edition puzzle is not just a fun challenge; it's a symbol of the critical role you play in piecing together our students' futures.

Visit Winthrop.edu/monthlygiving today to set up your gift!

BE THE FINAL PIECE WE NEED!

End Of Page 15