

What's inside



Sam Hyatt / The Johnsonian

Winthrop professor, students research endangered sunflower



Cooper Beck / The Johnsonian

SC Senate fails to pass 'near-total' abortion ban

*flip for more!*

# Black marijuana users arrested more than white marijuana users, RHPD statistics show

SPENCER HORTON  
COPY EDITOR

The 2020 Census shows that Black people make up 39% of Rock Hill's population compared to 54% for white people, and yet, the Rock Hill Police Department's 2020 Police Report shows that "A total of 1,413 black non-Hispanic males (44%) were arrested in 2020, compared to 1,356 (38%) in 2019 for a 4.2% increase," as opposed to "A total of 831 white non-Hispanic males (26%) were arrested in 2020, compared to 1013 (28%) in 2019 for an 18% decrease."

Looking at a crime that white people and Black people commit at similar rates, like marijuana use, shows that there is a racial disparity in marijuana arrests.

The criminalization of marijuana had many racial issues involved from the start. The book, "Something's in the Air" by James Lance Taylor, Katherine Tate and Mark Q. Sawyer talks about how a lot of fear was cast onto the drug because of its use by Black-majority groups like Rastafarians. It also discusses how news outlets were encouraged by the government to say "marijuana" when discussing it rather than slang like "weed," as "marijuana" sounded more "Hispanic" and it was thought that this would make people fear it more.

According to "Mari-

juana: Weeding Out the Hype!" from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Use of marijuana does not vary much among racial and ethnic groups."

"Research has proven that though marijuana specifically is equally used across racial lines, blacks are almost four times more likely to be arrested for possession of marijuana based on the ACLU Civil Rights research studies," York County Police Department criminal investigator Kiera Fayall said.

"Racial disparities in marijuana arrests is an issue everywhere," Winthrop assistant professor of criminology Ty Miller said. "Across the nation, we know that people of color are arrested for marijuana at rates that are not only disproportionate to their population-but they are far more likely to be arrested than white people, who commit drug-related offenses at the same rate (and sometimes higher) than people of color."

"Statistically speaking, it's a fact that blacks are arrested at a higher rate than whites for possession," York Tech criminal justice department chair Patricia Hovis said. "Maybe even distribution, sales of marijuana, I don't know, maybe it's about, you know, two or three times the rates of white persons. So, that is disparity and that is a problem."

...

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Caroline Edwards / The Johnsonian

# Kiwibots, the new food delivery robots serving up smiles



Sodexo employees Helen Hoban and Roxy Flory speak to reporter Ainsley McCarthy

Caroline Edwards/The Johnsonian

AINSLEY MCCARTHY  
NEWS EDITOR

Winthrop Dining Services announced the addition of some new artificially-intelligent staff via Instagram on Aug. 18. They're called Kiwibots- semi-autonomous 22"x17" insulated containers on wheels that aim to be a cheaper alternative to mainstream delivery services like Grubhub and DoorDash.

The process went live on Aug. 7, so students can now order a Kiwibot delivery using the Everyday app. Students can select from various on-campus menu items and arrange to have their food delivered to Community Collection Points that will be posted on social media. When they confirm the order and meet the

bot, they will be able to unlock it via a button on the app.

Users can opt-in to one of three subscription plans, or make direct payments as needed. The Kiwibot Silver Plan offers 15 deliveries at \$40 per semester, the Gold Plan offers 45 deliveries at \$109 per semester, and the Platinum Plan offers 70 deliveries at \$159 per semester. Individual deliveries are roughly \$2 each.

There are 15 Kiwibots available for use by faculty, staff, and students.

General Manager Helen Hoban says Sodexo chose to introduce the bots instead of delegating deliveries to student employees because "it's fun and different."

"We do hire a great

deal of employees, but the Kiwibots were suggested as something—a partnership between Sodexo and Kiwibot has come forward—and we just thought it would be really fun and exciting to have them," Hoban said.

This partnership between Sodexo and Kiwibot comes from a campaign to integrate Kiwibots with at least 50 college campuses across North America according to Sodexo's website. Winthrop's machines are monitored and controlled remotely from room 256 in the Digiorgio Student Union to bring students what is available for delivery in the area.

As of right now, Chick-Fil-A and Starbucks are not available for delivery.

"This is a Chick-Fil-A and Starbucks decision," says Marketing Manager Roxy Flory, "Because we have a full Starbucks store, we can't deliver. If we were only selling Starbucks in a small kiosk or something, we could, but because we are fully licensed on everything, they won't allow us to yet. But, everyone at Sodexo and Kiwibot is trying because we know that's what students want to have."

Current options include Eagle Eatery, Markley's Food Court, Einstein Bros Bagels, Mr. Beast Burger, and Mariah Carey's Cookies.

Dining Services says that while the student's response has been "mostly positive" there has been issues with bystanders kicking

and mistreating them, which is considered destruction of University property per the Student Conduct Code.

According to the Operations Strategy and U.S. Expansion Manager for Kiwibot, Julian Echeverri, the robots capture data regarding the sidewalk infrastructure that is shared with the University to ensure ADA compliance and efficiency since the bots will not necessarily share all the same obstacles that wheelchair users experience. However, they cannot climb stairs, use elevators, or open doors.

Hoban says that at least 5 people have signed up for a subscription thus far.

## SC Senate fails to pass 'near-total' abortion ban

MARLEY BASSETT  
MANAGING EDITOR

The South Carolina senate recently failed to pass a near total ban on abortions without exceptions for rape and incest.

The only exceptions left were fatal fetal anomalies and severe threat to the mother's life.

The original bill that passed the House ad hoc committee had no exceptions for rape or incest before the House added an amendment for cases of rape or incest for up to 12 weeks with a mandatory reporting requirement.

The Senate Medical Affairs committee later removed the amendment before it advanced to the full Senate.

While the Senate did not pass the ban, they did however adopt an amendment. The amendment allows

exceptions for rape and incest up to 14 weeks but the abortion would have to be reported to a sheriff and include a DNA sample so that the rape or incest perpetrator could be prosecuted.

The amendment would also require two separate physicians to diagnose a severe fetal anomaly before the pregnancy could be terminated.

Republicans and Democrats were divided over the issue in both the House and the Senate.

"We were not called back to pass a bill we already have – we were called to rewrite the laws of our state after the Dobbs decision," Rep. John McCravy said.

This is not where I wanted to be. I was hoping we'd do something pretty aggressive in response to Dobbs," Senate majority leader

Shane Massey said.

Winthrop students were also divided over the issue.

"Not only are these abortion bans insanely strict but they're killing people and I think anyone who has a different opinion, that these abortion bans are good or necessary, are not looking at it from a human lens," sophomore music tech major Ravyn Rhodes said.

"These laws are killing people, they're hurting people, they're tearing people from their families," Rhodes continued. "They are draconian and they need to be removed."

"When I was 15, someone older than me tried to force me to have a baby with him. Luckily, I never got pregnant but I remember the pain I went through and the only thing that kept me afloat was knowing that I had options. It makes

me scared to see that I don't have the options I had seven years ago," senior digital information design major Savannah Fiegl said.

"Politics and religion have no right being in reproductive health care," sophomore political science major TJ Carbon said.

"Since this ban is based off the Dobbs decision earlier this year,

I believe this is a great moral victory for the country but politically it was a very sloppy decision, especially in the polarized times we live in," sophomore political science major David Ibragimov said.

The amended bill now goes back to the House of Representatives for approval before it can be sent to Gov. Henry McMaster's desk.

## Police Blotter



SAM HYATT  
STAFF WRITER

A traffic stop on Cherry Road was documented by the Reporting Officer (R/O) On Aug. 26.

The R/O saw a white Toyota Corolla speeding on Cherry Road and proceeded to initiate a traffic stop. When the R/O approached the vehicle, he smelled marijuana. After asking for the driver's credentials, the dispatcher communicated that the driver had previously been arrested on a Persons Who Inject Drugs charge (PWID) and possession of a firearm. The R/O detained the driver and found 0.6 grams of marijuana in the vehicle. After seeing that the driver had a clear criminal record, he was given a warning and the marijuana was placed in evidence to be destroyed.

On Aug. 30 the R/O was asked to make an investigation at the Good Building concerning a harassment claim from a Winthrop student.

The R/O interviewed the victim who stated that an acquaintance they knew from high school was continuously following her around and making unwanted advances towards her.

After this, the R/O traveled to Thomson Hall to make contact with the Offender but was unable to make contact. After returning to the Good Building, the Offender was on scene requesting to speak with the R/O. The offender stated that he did make contact with the victim and provided several examples that matched the testimony of the victim. The R/O advised both parties to stop all contact and advised them that they would be referred to the Dean of Student for further investigation.

On Aug. 31 a victim reported to the Good Building a larceny of a bicycle. The R/O spoke with the victim who stated that they last saw the bicycle in the bicycle rack in front of Phelps Hall. The victim stated that the bicycle was stolen between April 5, 2022, and Aug. 31 2022.



Cooper Beck/The Johnsonian

## rest of **MARIJUANA** from page 1

... Data obtained through the Freedom of Information Act through the Rock Hill Police Department shows that in 2021 there were 329 people booked in the city jail with marijuana-related offenses. Of these people, 230 of them were black, 91 were white and eight were Hispanic.

The statistics are in line with arrest rates for marijuana-related offenses across South Carolina, Hovis says, but higher than that of other states.

“I don’t think that there is any data that would support that Rock Hill, is any different than or significantly different than any other law enforcement agency in the state,” Hovis said. “I do know that in South Carolina, we do have a higher rate of arrests. And you know, it just depends on what statistics you’re looking at. We have a larger African American population than, say, Massachusetts, so it would stand to reason that our arrest numbers for them are higher. But I think if you look at the rates, in proportion with the population, I think South Carolina’s

still is, I don’t want to say an anomaly, but we’re right up there with marijuana arrests.”

Most marijuana arrests come from traffic stops, a method that has seen criticism as being inequitable. Research from New York University shows that black drivers are around 20 percent more likely to be stopped than white drivers. However, RHPD officers claim that this issue does not apply to Rock Hill.

“Many of our marijuana arrests come from traffic stops,” Rock Hill Police Department public information officer Michael Chavis said. “A study was conducted a couple of years ago regarding the traffic stops made at our department. Traffic stops are actions that officers make based on infractions and officer discretion. These differ from calls for service where a caller initiates the officer’s response. During the study, there was no racial disparity or biases found. Subsequently, the arrests made for marijuana were based on the fact that possession of the drug is illegal, not any other factors.”

Some say these higher numbers of traffic stops for minorities come from over-policing in minority neighborhoods, something that RHPD officers also claim is not a problem in Rock Hill.

“We patrol the entire city, if we just said areas where we do the most traffic stops, those areas would be your high vehicular corridors such as Cherry Road, Celanese, Mt. Gallant, Dave Lyle, Heckle Blvd., Albright Road, etc,” Rock Hill Police Department research data analyst Damien Williams said. “Generally speaking, we would like to be patrolling in our high violent crime areas such as South/Southwest of downtown and the Riverview Road area but it depends on call volume and what 9-1-1 calls are coming and how many on a shift. On night shift, many times, we may patrol the hotels along Dave Lyle due to almost weekly car break-ins at the hotels in the late-night hours.”

“The Rock Hill Police Department uses a data-driven approach to crime,” Chavis said. “The data is collected from calls for ser-

vice from our citizens reporting criminal activity. We utilize the data to track crime, establish our response police zones, and predict crime trends. This is important because if officers are present in an area, it is the first step to the deterrence of crime.

“Secondly, using crime maps to establish patrol zones lowers response times to citizen calls and helps to put officers where they are needed. This is how we focus our patrol efforts. Currently, our city is segmented into 11 patrol zones for the patrol shifts which are comprised of 13 officers and 3 supervisors. These zones are sized based on crime stats to have officers in those areas readily available to respond to calls or conduct traffic enforcement as time allows.

“We have a goal that we respond to priority calls in under five minutes which factors in on how big each patrol zone is. Officers patrol their zone during their shift and as needed will assist another officer in their zone. Efforts are made to ensure we are providing necessary police coverage to all areas of the city.”

This reasoning is similar to claims made by officers in New York City in 2018. The New York Times reported in an article titled “Surest Way to Face Marijuana Charges in New York: Be Black or Hispanic,” that the NYPD claimed that marijuana arrests were higher in minority neighborhoods because those neighborhoods received more 911 calls complaining about marijuana.

“The police blame it on the communities themselves because they’re the ones calling on us,” Queens councilman Rory Lancman said in the article.

The New York Times debunked the department’s claim and found that most of these complaints about marijuana from these neighborhoods didn’t come because more people were smoking it in these areas, but because these areas are less likely to have responsive landlords who can field their complaints.

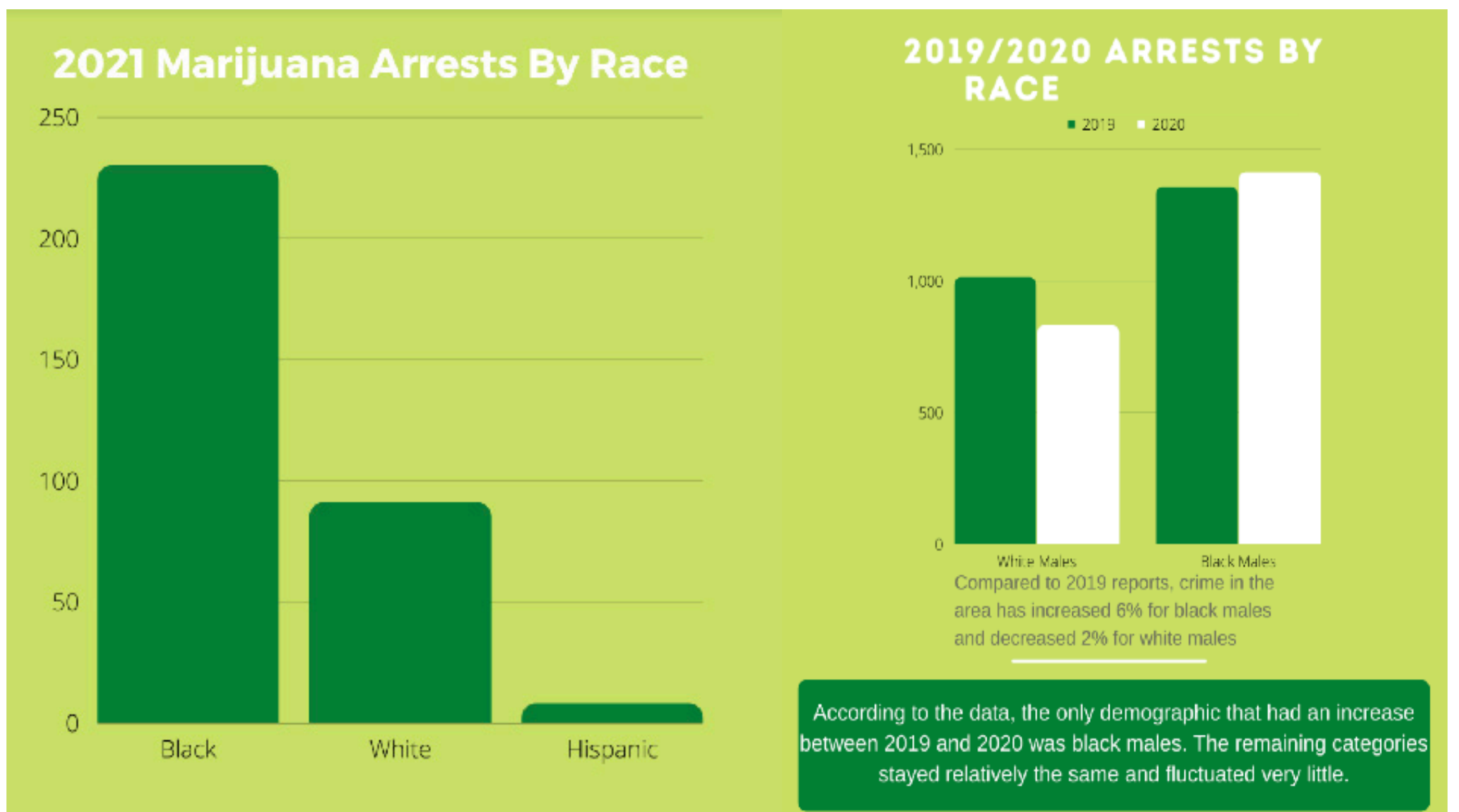
They also found that even in white-majority neighborhoods, black people were more likely to be arrested for marijuana possession. In the Upper West Side, where white residents

outnumber their black and Hispanic neighbors by six to one, seven out of every 10 people charged with marijuana possession were black or Hispanic.

Similar situations could be taking place in Rock Hill and a big cause of this is racial profiling, a problem that Hovis says is getting better in the community.

“Obviously, as everybody knows, or at least I hope everybody knows that there is racial disparity and there is racial profiling and has been for quite some time,” Hovis said. “The good news is we know it now. We talk more about it and we are forming partners in the community, I think Rock Hill does a really good job of that.

“I think that the Rock Hill Police Department has a really good ongoing relationship with the NAACP. So, I mean, I think it’s evident that we know that racial injustice occurs has occurred, still occurs and will always occur. It’s a human business, and when you have humans involved, we’re not perfect and there are human beings that do things that aren’t right.”



Spencer Horton/The Johnsonian

# Police Blotter: Charges upheld on suspect found with drugs in Dalton parking lot

SHE' FRANKLIN  
STAFF WRITER

On Sept. 8, a suspect was arrested after marijuana was found inside his vehicle during a routine property check of the Dalton Hall parking lot located on Winthrop University campus. According to the Reporting Officer (R/O), while conducting a property check of the parking lot, there was a noticeable smell of marijuana. To identify the source of the smell, the R/O began shining a light into vehicles and observed a male subject sitting in a vehicle with the engine running and the lights off. The suspect, later identified as a Winthrop affiliate, was instructed by the R/O to step out of the vehicle to perform a teary search and probable cause search. During the search, the R/O spotted a small

gray bag in the vehicle front passenger seat that he noticed the suspect was attempting to reach for multiple times. According to the R/O, located in the small gray bag was a clear plastic bag containing 53.1 grams of marijuana, a black plastic bag containing 29.9 grams of marijuana and a glass jar containing 3.1 grams of marijuana. Further into the vehicle search, the R/O also located a rolling tray, grinder, and a scale covered in marijuana residue. The suspect was later taken to Rock Hill Police Department and was issued warrants for PWID marijuana (possession with intent to distribute marijuana) and PWID proximity (possession with intent to distribute within proximity of a school).



additional  
**POLICE BLOTTER**  
on page 2



est. 1923

# THE JOHNSONIAN

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## Alumni, Jessica White shares her late 2000s Winthrop experience

Class of 2009 Alumni shares Winthrop experience

SAM HYATT  
STAFF WRITER

Jessica White, an alumna from the class of 2009, shares about her time at Winthrop.

“The environment at Winthrop was very laid back and yet still vibrant. In 2009, when I graduated, Ugg boots were very popular with tank tops and jean skirts or sweatpants,” White said. “There were definitely some interesting people in every corner of campus, which was a nice change of pace from my suburban upbringing.”

Throughout her time, White was an English education major and was involved in various organizations and areas on campus. She held roles as assistant editor in chief and editor in chief for The Anthology, worked as assistant director of residence life, participated in Model UN,

of The Anthology felt a bit like a whirlwind, but luckily I had a really strong team of editors,” White said. “I was proud to dedicate the 2009 edition to Dr. Furr because I know I would not have been able to pull off my student teaching, my side jobs, and my EIC responsibilities without her support and guidance.”

During sophomore year, she studied abroad for a semester in Reading England at the University of Reading. During her time there, she got to take various literature courses such as a feminist author and theory course and a London 1550-1700 literature and language course.

“Traveling to London and seeing the local spots around Reading were my favorite,” White said. “I got to ride in the front of a double decker bus and

explored some quaint little tourist spots. There were so many fun things that I got to experience while I was there that I later got to discuss in various ways in my classrooms.”

After graduating, White became an English teacher and taught for 14 years. She is now a Digital Learning Coach for Lexington District One in a middle school.

“I get to help teachers and student implement and experiment with technology in their instruction to our collective betterment,” White said.



Jessica White '09



Alumna Jessica White during her time at Winthrop



## New interim academic provost named Peter Judge begins his new role at Winthrop

MARLEY BASSETT  
MANAGING EDITOR

Originally from Western New York, Peter Judge has made his home here at Winthrop for the past 22 years.

Judge was originally the department chair of the philosophy and religious studies major. He also served as interim dean of the college of arts and sciences for two years and mass communication department chair for a year.

Judge had previously retired in 2021 but was asked to come back to serve as interim academic affairs provost upon the departure of the previous provost Adrienne McCormick at the end of the last

academic year.

Upon his appointment by former interim president George Hynd, Judge said “I’m grateful for their trust. I look forward to playing a role in helping President Serna settle into leading his alma mater with confidence.”

He continued, saying, “I’m also thrilled to be working once again with so many of Winthrop’s bright, creative, and dedicated staff, faculty and administrators.”

Judge elaborated on what he wants to fulfill in his role including expanding the bridge program with York Tech to offer more programs.

He also stated that he hopes Winthrop is now back to normal.

“I hope it’s time now to get out of the reacting mode and get into a more normal mode where we are really embracing our future and looking to build what’s good about Winthrop and to add new things to attract more students and build up our reputation again.”

When asked about what he wanted to accomplish with his role, Judge just said he hoped he could help others realize their best potential.

“In my role, I can enable the good people we have working here to do the best that they are capable of doing. If we can just scratch the surface of feeling satisfied in the job we’ve done together, then I will feel like I’ve done my job. I think I have the possibility to help people feel better about their work,” he said.

Faculty and staff were pleased when it was announced that Judge would be the new interim provost.

“I am so happy to be working with Interim Provost Judge in this important transition point for Winthrop University. Provost Judge is a dedicated leader, thoughtful decision maker, and calming advocate for those with which he works,” dean of the college of education, Beth Costner Greene said

“I have found him to be attentive, thoughtful, thorough, and prompt in his decision-making,” dean of the college of business dean P.N Saksena said

“Dr. Judge is learning quickly and beginning to work with the Deans, establish his presence among the senior leadership, and develop a working rapport with Dr. Serna. I believe that he’ll be a stabilizing force for the campus this year,” college of arts and sciences dean Takita Sumter said

Judge said he hopes that faculty, staff and students will feel satisfied with the job they have done at the end of this academic year.

“I would like faculty, staff and students to get to the end of this academic year and look back and feel satisfied about what we’ve done together. Not just that we worked efficiently or saved money but that we can really feel good about what we are and what we’re trying to do,” he said.



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# President Serna offers office hours to students



SAM HYATT  
STAFF WRITER

President Serna offered his first session of office hours for students on Thursday, Sept. 9, 2022.

“When I began my tenure here on July 1, I promised that the campus community (and I include myself in that category, of course) would embark on a honest and shared assessment of where Winthrop is currently and of our aspirations,” Serna said. “Who better to have those conversations with than students, who are essential to our work here?”

The office hours are strictly for Winthrop students as faculty and staff will have the opportunity to share their concerns and ideas during meetings, conferences and the website.

“Office hours have long been a way for college students to get face time with their professors and having the same opportunity with campus leadership simply makes sense,” Serna said. “I’ve felt that my past expectations of leadership are straight forward: authenticity, honesty, transparency, communication – and I believe students likely value those as well.”

These office hours are held on select dates throughout the semester during common time. Students are able to sign up for office hours on the Winthrop website and can “expect to have 15 minutes of one-on-one time in a relaxed environment,” Serna said.

“I believe the president’s decision to hold office hours will have a positive impact on student involvement and morale,” English graduate student Stephanie Martin said. “With my involvement with The Anthology and the writing center, I could

see myself utilizing the president’s office hours in instances where I and my peers feel unheard as students.”

Before coming to the president’s office hours, Serna asks that students sign up in advance via the form on the Winthrop website. This allows the president to prepare and gather any information that the students may need.

“If I had to guess, I’d say students see a lot of change happening around campus and probably have questions about that and maybe they are curious about who I am as well as my thoughts on different topics,” Serna said.

If students are not able to meet with President Serna during office hours, they are able to connect with him through “Ask Me Anything About...” sessions in the Digs lobby. Each session will be focused on a specific theme and students are able to ask President Serna questions on these topics.

These sessions will be available on Sept. 15, Oct. 20 and Nov. 17 during common time.

“I’m just excited to meet students and really get to know this community in a new way,” Serna said. “I’d also add that outside of office hours, students should definitely feel free to say hello when they see me on campus, and Lauren as well, and to use the question and suggestion form on my website if face-to-face meeting or on zoom is not their preference.”

President Serna and his wife, Lauren, say they are excited to be involved and meet Winthrop students.

“I truly want to get to know as many students as possible!” Serna said. “I know my wife, Lauren, is excited to get involved on campus as well.”

# Winthrop professor, students research endangered sunflower

SAM HYATT  
STAFF WRITER

Over the summer, Dr. Kunsiri Grubbs and her two students, Thomas Harder and Zachary Taylor, continued research on the South Carolina native sunflower called *Helianthus schweinitzii*. According to the South Carolina Wildlife Federation, the sunflower has been on the endangered list since 1991.

Grubbs started her research on this sunflower when she started working at Winthrop after working closely with Richard “Dick” Houk.

“He taught me a lot about this sunflower and helped me get started,” Grubbs said.

The *Helianthus schweinitzii* sunflower is a prairie sunflower that grows in the south. In addition to being beautiful flowers, they are important for pollinators and wildlife in our area.

“Every now and then, transportation engineering firms that are working to expand

roads request my help to transplant sunflowers that grow along the road,” Grubbs said.

Before coming to Winthrop, Grubbs researched the genus *Eupatorium*, a place that belongs to the sunflower family.

Part of Grubbs and her students research consists of driving around York County to identify locations where the species grow and count the plant number.

“We want to update the available data of the species found in South Carolina,” Grubbs said. “As our area becomes more developed, we have to recognize the importance of trying to keep the plants, insects, and animals that are native to this area preserved.”

Grubbs has sent DNA on this species for a national study and is working with other universities to further their knowledge about this plant.

“I have learned a great deal here such as how to collect DNA from plant specimens,

make many different graphs through excel to show our data best, make maps through ArcGIS and excel, as well as record where our specimens are,” senior Thomas Harder said.

In addition to constructing graphs and logging data, Harder’s role in the research was extracting DNA from the plant leaves and recording data in the field.

Zachary Taylor, a senior working alongside Dr. Grubbs, had the role of locating current and new populations of the sunflowers in York County and updating the current population counts. This is to help decide if *Helianthus schweinitzii* should be removed from the endangered list.

“I have learned a lot about the morphology and diversity present among the populations spread across York County as well as the threats of urbanization to current populations,” Taylor said. “I plan to continue pursuing my passion for this re-

search in the future to identify, preserve, and grow current *Helianthus schweinitzii* populations in our area with the goal of removing it from the endangered list.”

There are a few ways that people can help preserve these sunflowers. People can become involved by spreading awareness on the species or plant the sunflowers in their yards.

“The best part of having native plants is that they’re are tolerant of the environment conditions in our community. This sunflower is perennial so it will come back every year,” Grubbs said. “People can also get involved with organizations such as South Carolina Native Plant Society to learn about other species that grow in this region.”

These sunflowers can be found at Winthrop farm and on the campus green and will be blooming over the next two months.

# DHEC widens monkeypox vaccine eligibility

CHASE DUNCAN  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) has expanded vaccine eligibility for the monkeypox virus to include “any man who has sex with men [MSM] and any person receiving HIV prep [an HIV preventative medicine],” DHEC Medical Consultant Jonathon Knoche said in a monkeypox press conference last Wednesday.

The DHEC website states the vaccine eligibility includes gay or bisexual men as well as transgender or gender non-conforming individuals.

Knoche said the criteria expansion for vaccine eligibility will help protect South Carolinians who are at high risk of exposure and help limit the spread of the virus.

“Anyone who be-

lieves they’re in one of the high risk groups is encouraged to call the DHEC [South Carolina clinic] at 855-472-3432, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, or they can go online to [scdf.gov](http://scdf.gov) to use our web chat feature to determine whether they’re eligible to schedule a vaccine appointment at a health department,” Knoche said.

Monkeypox is a viral disease in the same family as smallpox that manifests on infected individuals as deep-seated, painful lesions that primarily transmits through direct skin-to-skin contact with other individuals. The disease can also infect others less commonly through respiratory secretions and contaminated personal items like clothing.

The lesions can remain on an infected person’s body for up

to two to four weeks until they become itchy scabs and fall off.

Individuals who suspect they have been infected should isolate and take a medical test to confirm whether they have contracted the disease. Commercial travel during isolation should not occur, but private transportation is acceptable, according to Knoche.

Close contacts are not required to quarantine at this time, but should be educated on monkeypox symptoms and be tested if they begin to develop a rash.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website reports 56,609 cases of monkeypox infections globally while the U.S. leads with the most infections at 21,504 as of Sept. 9, 2022. Knoche said there have been 120 confirmed cases in South Carolina.

There have been 15 total cases of mon-

keypox related deaths worldwide with one possibly recorded in Texas last week, according to Knoche. He said the Texan individual’s cause of death is still awaiting autopsy confirmation.



Pixabay

# WINTHROP MADLIBS!

## Fantastic Fall

I am so \_\_\_\_\_(emotion) for the start of fall! Now that the weather is cooling off, it's time to do so many fun fall activities! My favorite is \_\_\_\_\_(verb/activity); I do it every year. I love the outfits we get to wear in fall too! The \_\_\_\_\_(clothing) are super cute and look so \_\_\_\_\_(adjective) against the leaves! Of course, who can forget sports? My favorite fall sport is \_\_\_\_\_(sport), and I am definitely going to all of the home games this semester! The food is also a huge reason why I love fall. For the record, I am super passionate about the "apple cinnamon or pumpkinn spice" debate. I'm Team \_\_\_\_\_(pick which one), obviously!

## Windy Hill

Now that it's apple picking season, I took my friends to Windy Hill last weekend. My friend, \_\_\_\_\_(name), didn't want to go until she saw how cool it was! We \_\_\_\_\_(past tense verb) for a few hours before \_\_\_\_\_(verb ending in -ing). My other friend, \_\_\_\_\_(name), bought us all apple spice donuts. They were \_\_\_\_\_(adjective)! We also took a bunch of selfies (obviously) and captioned them #\_\_\_\_\_ (clever hashtag). After \_\_\_\_\_(hours), we finally went home. It was a long day, but it was the most fun I have had since \_\_\_\_\_(event)!

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Mariana Beltran/The Johnsonian

## Common Time comes back for Winthrop community

With the reimplementaion of Common Time, what are Winthrop's students, faculty, and staff up to?

AUTUMN HAWKINS  
OPINION EDITOR

Common Time is back for students and faculty at Winthrop University after being discontinued temporarily in 2020 amidst safety concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Established in 2009, Common Time is a period between 11:00 AM and 12:15 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays, as well as starting at 2:00 on Fridays. They were

implemented to "help faculty, students, staff, and administrators best organize our time and minimize scheduling conflicts", according to the university's website.

Traditionally, Common Time was used for students to meet with professors, rest before afternoon classes, or engage in student involvement.

For students, the first Tuesday of each month's Common Time is reserved for universi-

ty -- or specific college -- events; this could include panel meetings, organization meetings, or cultural events. The College of Education uses this time for Teaching Fellows meetings, where members can learn about teaching in South Carolina or professional development as pre-service teacher candidates. Theatre production meetings typically take place during Common Time to ensure that

cast and crew alike are able to attend.

This is a rather busy time of day for Dining Services. Since most students do not have prior engagements during Common Time, it is seen as an unofficial campus-wide lunch time. On-campus dining hit rush hour as students try to socialize and eat before their next class. Nearby restaurants, such as Dragon Express and McDonalds, also exhib-

it higher traffic during this time.

For faculty and staff, Common Time can be spent meeting with their respective departments, grading assignments, commuting to another part of campus before their next class, or taking a lunch break. They may also choose to facilitate/ponsor any college-specific events.

Emily Tuttle, adjunct professor, currently teaches solely online, so

Common Time is not part of her daily schedule. As an alum, Tuttle used Common Time during her undergraduate studies to "grab lunch, see a friend, or walk my [goofy] dog".

Tuttle hopes that those who experience Common Time use it to take a break from any daily stressors that classes and homework might spawn.

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