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**THE JOHNSONIAN**  
*centennial*



Winthrop University	February 1, 2023	Rock Hill, SC
		
		
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## 144 graves found on Winthrop alumni's newly purchased property

"The 144: Honoring the Lost Ancestors" event to be held soon



Property owners place markers on all graves to ensure they are respected

Courtesy of Andrew Lazenby

**Sam Hyatt**  
 Volunteer Writer

Winthrop alumni Andrew Lazenby, class of 2006 and 2009, purchased 100 acres of land in Rock Hill that contained 144 graves of enslaved Africans.

During the process of purchasing the land in Oct. 2021, the previous landowners notified the current landowners about the presence of the cemetery on the property. However, they were not aware of the location and the current landowners were able to search the property for markers on the graves.

After finding the graves, the landowners made the decision to place markers on all of the graves.

"We made a decision to place a marker on all the graves as a show of respect and as insurance that these will not be lost again in the future," Lazenby said. "We contacted a stone cutter / carver in SC to have the stones made. Each stone simply has a number."

Additionally, the land owners are contracting a metal smith from North Carolina to help construct a fence and gate to surround the

site.

Joel Hohmann has been hired by the property owners to do research on the history of the land to help the landowners understand the origin of the graves.

"We looked at various battles, disease outbreaks, itinerant churches, etc. and it was during this process we discovered the plantation this land was associated with, and that this was an enslaved cemetery," Lazenby said. "While we have the name of the plantation owners and have found some descendants, we are not releasing that information to the public until the event on February 25th."

According to the Nation Ford Land Trust statement concerning the 144 graves, the "Nation Ford Land Trust will host a ceremony to acknowledge and celebrate the loves of, 'The 144.'" The property owners will be in attendance.

The event will be held on Feb. 25, 2023, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. There will be a question-and-answer panel with the property owners and Nation Ford Land Trust which will be moderated by

Emiene Wright of Our State Magazine.

Dr. Corey D.B. Walker, the interim dean of the school of divinity and director of African-American Studies at Wake Forest University will be the keynote speaker.

There will only be 144 tickets sold for "The 144: Honoring the Long Ancestors" and will be \$75. Tickets can be purchased at <http://www.nationfordlandtrust.org/the-144/>.

"All ticket proceeds will be considered as fundraising donations to Nation Ford Land Trust, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that works to conserve and protect land throughout York County," Megan Mahoney, the land trust associate

said. "NFLT is the main organization behind the set-up of the event and the event itself is intended as a fundraiser to help NFLT protect more greenspace and potentially other properties."

Moving forward, the site will remain protected and available for the descendants to visit. The site will not be open for the general public. Visits will be coordinated with the landowners to ensure that the area remains safe.

Information concerning the names of the plantation associated with the graves, the plantation owners and the descendants are remaining private but will be released at the event on Feb. 25, 2023.



One of the grave markers at the site

Courtesy of Nation Ford Land Trust

## Let's talk money: Winthrop president and CFO answer student's questions about the budget

The first "Ask Me Anything" session of the semester had students waiting in line to speak to Serna and his colleagues.



Serna and Oates take questions from students

Gabe Corbin/The Johnsonian

**Ainsley McCarthy**  
 News Editor

Facilities upkeep and increasing revenue were the two big topics discussed at President Serna's first "Ask Me Anything" of the semester. Serna set up shop at The Edge in Markley's Food Court from 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. on Jan. 26. He was accompanied by Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Justin Oates and Vice President of Facilities Management, James Grigg.

Grigg said that there are plans in the works to use their \$26 million facilities investment to fix deferred maintenance, namely in the residence halls, but also in main buildings like Tillman. Over the next few years they will repair heating and cooling systems, replace the roofs of Lee Whicker and Phelps, and update the bathrooms in Margaret Nance Hall.

The driving force behind these improvements is to attract new generations to the school, and bolster its appeal to prospective students.

Serna said he is "encouraged" by the turn-around in enrollment data, stating that though the past two years have each had a 10% drop, retention numbers from fall 2022 to spring 2023 went up.

"You can imagine the impact that that has on our budget, when—especially as a tuition driven institution—40% of our revenue comes from tuition." He attributes this success to the Vice President of Enrollment Management, Joseph Miller.

While financial recovery is still underway, the course was reexamined last fall to determine how to minimize strain on the budget.

**Cont. pg. 2**

## From page 1: Serna holds first "Ask Me Anything" of the semester in DIGS

This includes a 12 person minimum requirement for most degree programs, with only a few exceptions—like mathematics—to ensure that students are able to graduate.

Oates said that the University has used Coursedog, a platform that is focused on streamlining course availability and scheduling, for "the last few years" to help the course registrar post classes that are both in demand and resource conscious.

The president will be attending a workshop this week with other academic leadership to look at optimizing scheduling and revising the course catalog to avoid pulling back required courses. This could potentially include offering courses at different times than they have traditionally been held, or discontinuing certain electives in favor of more integral classes.

Serna also attended the House Ways and Means Committee in

Columbia, SC, where he addressed this issue, among others.

"I never want us to be in a situation, or continue this situation where we're offering classes and having to cancel them or pull them back. So we can have better data about the classes we're offering to have a higher level of confidence that they will make enrollment then we need to do that, because I can understand from (student's) perspective, like how frustrating it is to

get your schedule built, and then have classes get canceled. That's on us. We need to do a better job in that area."

Campus jobs are also a part of a number of student's daily routines, but the majority of them that are still available require that the applicant qualifies for Federal Work Study.

Federal Work Study funds are allowing individual departments to spend their money elsewhere, as budgets have been cut across the

board. "I think the key was we weren't utilizing our work study funds to the max in years prior," Oates said, "When we were funded internally we were leaving money on the table with the government."

The objective to utilize all of the university's available resources is one that President Serna has reiterated across multiple interviews, and Oates said that in their presentation to the Ways and Means Committee, members were im-

pressed with the university's "innovative thinking."

"President Serna realizes he's a change agent at the university, and some of the things he's doing to look at our program, look at how we offer—you know—our portfolio and some of those things that I think they are excited about. The President is coming in—who has experience—and doing and saying all the right things about the actions we're taking," Oates said

## Police Blotter



Marley Bassett  
Editor-in-Chief

### Suspicious vehicle at Winthrop Lake

An officer observed a suspicious vehicle on Winthrop Lake Drive after hours. The officer informed the subject that it was after hours and the subject was issued a one year trespass notice. This incident occurred on Jan. 21, 2023

### Arrest made after driving under suspension

An officer was conducting speed enforcement and pulled over the subject. While the subject was pulled over the officer found that the subject was driving under suspension because of failure to pay traffic tickets. The subject was arrested and taken to the RHLIC to be booked. This occurred on Jan. 21, 2023

### Winthrop University policy violated at Margaret Nance Hall

An officer was called after reports were made of a subject following his friends into the building at night on Jan. 26, 2023. The subject had not signed in and followed the friends to their room. The victim also stated to the officer that they were not friends, but that the subject was "just hanging out" and that they would like the subject to not return. The officer informed the subject that what they were doing was against university policy and issued the subject a trespass warning.

## Two bills proposed to ban critical race theory in South Carolina Legislature

Bills proposed in both houses of the legislature to ban the instruction of critical race theory in all public schools and universities



Front of the SC Statehouse

Courtesy of Pexels

Marley Bassett  
Editor-in-Chief

Amid the backdrop of similar education bills being proposed across the United States, both the South Carolina House and Senate have proposed bills to ban the instruction of critical race theory in all public schools and universities.

Critical race theory is defined as "a collection of concepts that race is a social construct, that racism is prevalent in American and Western society and that legal institutions are structured in such a way to perpetuate that racism," according to Merriam-Webster Dictionary.

Both SC H3464 and SC So246 strive to ban the instruction of what their legislative sponsors deem to be critical race theory.

SC H3464 states that "public school districts, public schools, and public institutions of higher learning may not: direct or otherwise compel students to personally affirm, adopt, or adhere to the tenets of critical race theory; or introduce a course of instruction or unit of study directing or otherwise compelling students to personally affirm, adopt, or adhere to any of the tenets of

critical race theory; or introduce a course of instruction or unit of study directing or otherwise compelling students to personally affirm, adopt, or adhere to any of the tenets of critical race."

This bill defines critical race theory as the notion that "any sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color, or national origin is inherently superior or inferior; individuals should be adversely treated on the basis of their sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color, or national origin; or individuals, by virtue of sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color, or national origin, are inherently responsible for actions committed in the past by other members of the same sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color, or national origin."

While both bills use similar language to define critical race theory, SC So246 goes further and instructs the school board of each school district as well as the board of trustees of public universities to develop a curriculum adhering to the policies mentioned in the bill and prohibits teaching what the sponsors of the bill deem to be critical race theory.

The current State Superintendent of Education, Ellen Weaver,

has spoken out in the past about her support of banning critical race theory.

On her website, Weaver has called for creating a "Parents Bill of Rights" to "ensure curriculum transparency" and "speak up against any political indoctrination in South Carolina schools."

Interim Provost of Academic Affairs, Peter Judge, said that "currently there is no need for us to worry."

"We have our sources at the statehouse and they said it is unlikely that these bills will pass at the moment. However, if something does change then we will respond accordingly."



Peter Judge

While these bills currently have not moved past the committee stage, if passed, they could majorly change how certain topics are taught and could encroach on academic freedom.

"Anything that is an attack on academic freedom concerns me. Anything that could be construed as teaching CRT could get someone

**"When I talk about standing up against 'woke ideology' in our public schools and using our schools for education, not indoctrination, I'm bent on standing up for our teachers, not just for our students," - Ellen Weaver**

reported or fired. A student objects to something they hear in class, they draw attention to it, and it becomes a controversy that threatens someone's professional livelihood," adjunct political science faculty member John Holder said.

These bills could also affect how American government and history are taught based on what school district K-12 students reside in.

"Teaching is going to vary based on the politics of the majority of the school board members in your particular school district. I just think we might end up in a system where there's two different histories and politics being taught entirely based on the politics of where you grew up, which is not good," assistant professor of political science Brandon Ranallo-Benavidez said.

As to why bills like these are being proposed and passed across the country, there are a multitude of reasons.

"I think what's happening is that the structures in our politics, the media ecosystems, that people are a part of this term critical race theory, like feminism, like queer theory, like other critical theories, it's not really understood in its true meaning and

**Why can't your system of thought and ideology stand up to real history?" - Dr. Brandon Ranallo-Benavidez**

context by the vast majority of society. It's because, at least in part, it's become a cudgel in the culture war that's driving so much of our politics right now," Ranallo-Benavidez said.

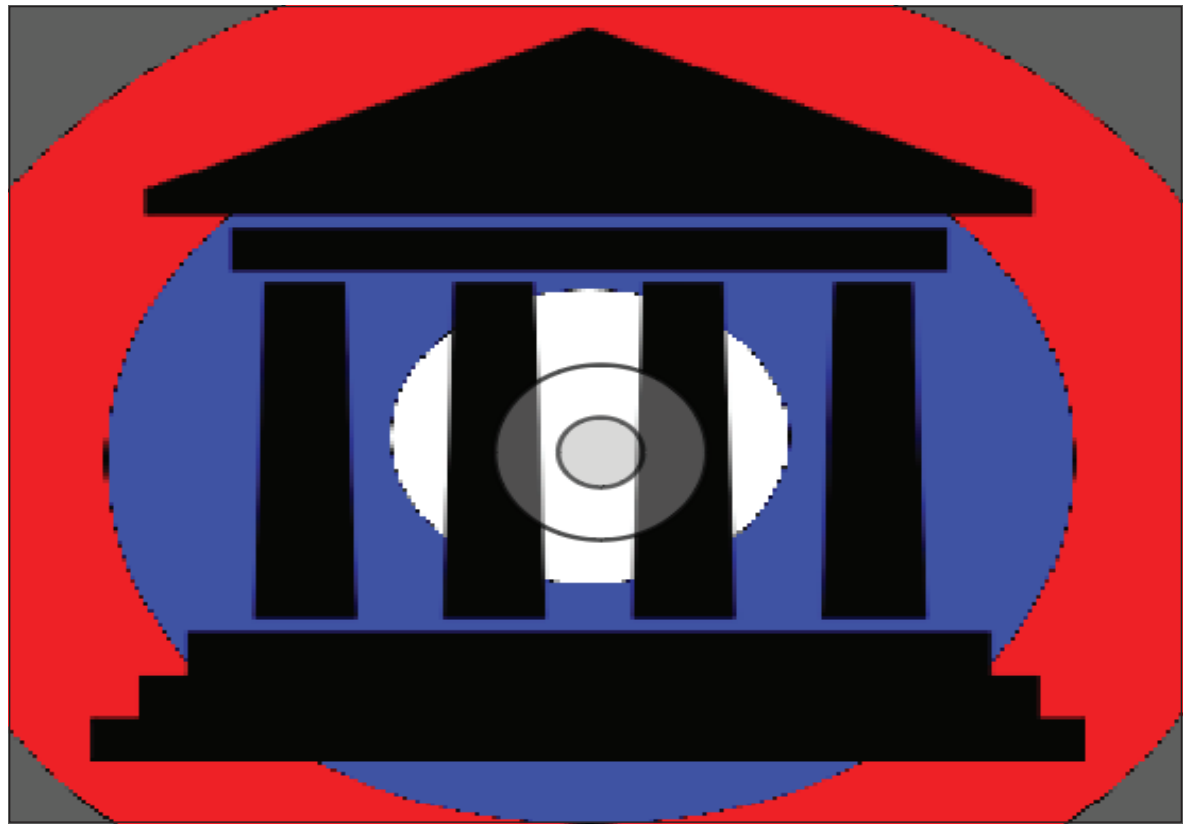
Professor of history Eddie Lee concurred saying that "The political climate in America at the present time is shaped by shouting and mis-information. Previously, we have argued about topics such as the Vietnam War and Women's Rights, but the current debate over Critical Race Theory can be shrill and loud. This debate threatens to affect civility and the basic analysis of important things like the modern Civil Rights Movement."

It is important to note that the federal government does not control state and local education policy and curriculum and the only way they could get involved is through the Supreme Court.

"This Supreme Court has been very willing to overturn federal efforts to curb policy making at the state level. On this question, I don't know what they will do. I suspect that it will be pretty similar to those others and that they will say no, the federal government has no authority to limit what is and is not taught from state to state or even from school district to school district," Ranallo-Benavidez said.

Lee said that the most important thing is that "teachers need to strive to teach the truth, accurate information, explaining it fairly to our students even in these turbulent times."

# "The Lying Congressman": A short and deceptive beginning of George Santos



This week in American politics

David Ibragimov  
Staff Writer

Congress: It's supposed to be made of hundreds of Representatives and Senators, stemming from different states and cultural backgrounds in order to represent the interests and values of the constituents that have trusted them to be their voice in politics.

However, just a day after Congress officially started, the residents of New York's third congressional district demanded their newly elected representative be removed due to allegations of lies and deceit. The representative in question is a fresh face in Congress, but one who has already developed a shady legacy. His name, or at least the one he uses now, is George Santos.

Unlike the somewhat disillusioning results in other parts of the country, the midterm elections were quite successful for the Republican party of NY, being able to flip four previously controlled Democrat seats. Everything seemed to be going great, as the candidates seemed to represent the best of what conservative New Yorkers had to offer.

But with Santos, it almost seemed like he was too overqualified to

run, being a financially successful Jewish and gay entrepreneur, who was not only able to overcome the effects the Holocaust left on his family but the terrorist attacks on 9/11 as well. He also gave back to his community, such as gathering money for a disabled veteran and his service dog.

Unfortunately to the supporters of Santos, many of the claims

provided by close associates of Santos.

The lie that began Santos' descent regarding his Jewish background. When running for office, the first thing viewers encountered was a description of Santos and the history that molded who he is: "George's grandparents fled Jewish persecution in Ukraine, settled in Belgium, and again fled persecution during WWII". However, this statement was proven to be false

The statement was later removed from Santos' campaign website.

These exposed lies, along with many others such as Santos attending certain schools, working within prominent businesses, and obtaining money from undisclosed sources have also placed Santos under federal investigations and harsh reprimand from the Nassau County Republican party.

"George Santos has violated the trust of

comments, which have ensured that he has no place in the Nassau County Republican Committee."

Other than political leaders, the residents of Nassau have made protests outside of Santos' vacant and empty office in Douglaston, calling on him to resign immediately. Jodi Kass Finkel, a resident of the third district, even went as far as to launch a bipartisan petition to remove Santos from

"The GOP did not vet their candidate", stated Evelina Sarles, a resident who believes that some of the blame should also be directed at the party.

Even with the GOP of Nassau and its voters disowning Santos as their representative, it seems that he will not be gone anytime soon. "The voters of his district have elected him. He is seated. He is part of the Republican conference," said Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy when questioned about Santos. "It's the voters who made that decision. He has to answer to the voters and the voters to make another decision in two years. He will continue to serve."

Even with no action being done right now, the rise of Santos demonstrates that even someone with no moral character or intellectual accomplishments is more than capable of taking one of the most powerful positions in the country on a stepstool built on lies. It demonstrates the importance of having the people and the party platform understand who they are placing in these important positions, for the sake of avoiding such incidents in the future.



Courtesy of Flickr

Santos speaks to a local GOP chapter

that their new Congressman has made have not only been revealed to be highly exaggerated but almost non-existent, through government sources and information

when the website myheritage.com tracked that both of Santos' grandparents, Paulo Horta Devolder and Rosalina Caruso Horta Devolder, were born in Brazil.

voters in the 3rd Congressional District, and he has disgraced the House of Representatives. What's more, Mr. Santos has deceived the Republican party with a profusion of lies, fabrications, and hurtful

from Congress.

"We got a con man, we got a liar, we got a charlatan", said Finkel. "We didn't do our homework, this is our responsibility."

## Winthrop CDI plans event to help students with goals

A recent cultural event allowed students to create vision boards from a career and mental health perspective.

Mari Pressley  
Managing Editor

Students formed a long line last Thursday as they awaited entrance to The Art of Envisioning event hosted by Winthrop's Center for Career Development and Internships (CDI) in Richardson Ballroom. Due to the fact that so many students attended, an overflow room was established at "The Fishbowl" inside of the DiGiorgio Campus Center.

CDI took this as a chance to help students plan out their goals in a "real tangible way" for the new year. Associate Director for Employment Engagement and Internships, Michael Szeman said, "A lot of research shows that putting together vision boards, and using vision boards for goal setting actually helps in achieving goals. So we're just getting students to start with goal setting, starting to practice that."

With magazines and craft supplies sprawled

across each table, students cut and glued away towards visualizing their futures. But, gathering these materials was a community effort. During the planning phase of the event, CDI put out an all-call to Winthrop faculty and staff who supplied a plethora of magazines for students to choose from and take home.

"Outside of that, we just pulled our resources as a department, snacks and just counseling services. They're a big part of this event, too. ... they've been

collaborating on this event for a while." Szeman said.

During her speech, Winthrop Counseling Services' Staff Counselor and Outreach Coordinator, Jessica Hudgens said, "It's actually really good for you in terms of mental health. Just setting the goals, right? Like, identifying that there is something that is worth it enough to you to set a goal, to then help you increase your confidence and increase self esteem right? Increases motivation to do all these sorts of things."

While the DiGiorgio Student Union hosted the event last year, CDI was able to offer students a lens of career

readiness, or any professional related goals they have.

"We decided to do this because we have core competencies that we try to cover within the Career Center. So there's eight of them. And, one of them is career and self development. So that was kind of the motivation. We pick one for every month and try to hone in on it," Career Coach, Hailey Weil said.

At each of Winthrop's CDI events, they make sure to implore students to use Handshake, a platform used by Winthrop's CDI to announce events and make appointments while simultaneously working as a job board

for students.

"I heard about this event through Handshake. And they kept sending emails out. So that's how I heard about it." Portia Blackman said, "I think the idea of a vision board is pretty nice. I want to see what they've got out here in these magazines and I'm just curious to see how this goes." "The other cultural event options just weren't as self-directed as this one ... Honestly, this is something I wouldn't probably do on my own time," biology major, Marissa Cleveland said.

# Alumni Spotlight: Winthrop's first African American student, Cynthia Roddey discusses her experience

SAM HYATT,  
Guest Writer

Roddey obtained her MAT in library science and English as the first African American to attend Winthrop

Cynthia Roddey, class of 1967, was the first African American to attend Winthrop College.

At the time, her attendance did not gain much attention from the media.

"On the one hand,

it was good not to be hounded by the media," Roddey said. "On the other, the history made by the first four Black females at WC is not recognized along with the desegregation of others in the state."

Roddey graduated in 1960 from Johnson C. Smith University with degrees in English and religion with a minor in psychology. At Winthrop College, Roddey received her MAT with majors in library

science and English. She later earned her Doctorate of Ministry from Mid-Atlantic Theological Seminary in church administration. Additionally, she is an ordained minister and has earned a certi-

fication in elementary education and media technology.

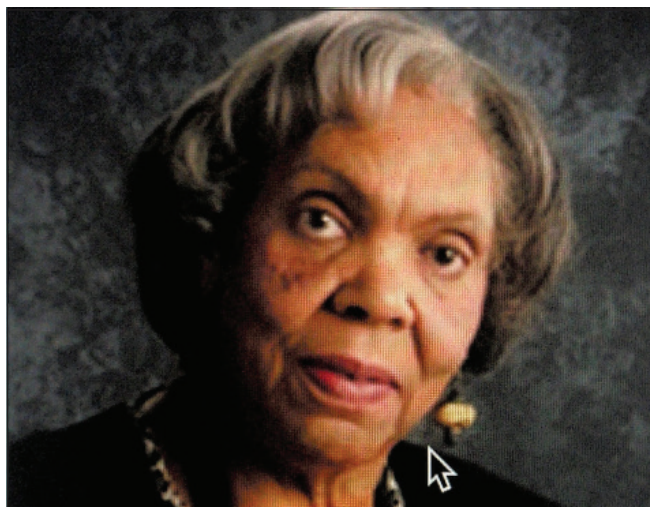
While at Winthrop College, Roddey "never felt like an Eagle."

"It was 25 years after graduation when the Black Alumni Associ-

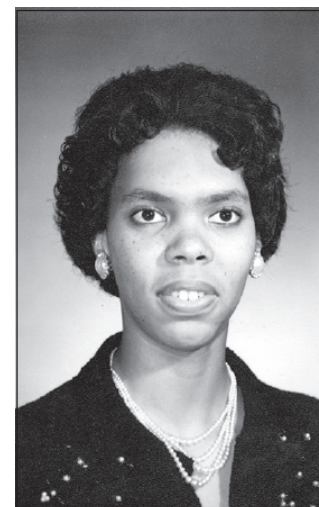
ation was formed and invited me to participate before I returned to campus. I became an advisor to the Xi Beta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta and for a few years frequently attended events," Roddey



Cynthia Roddey speaking at homecoming event at Winthrop 2006  
Courtesy of The Louise Pettus Archives



Roddey was the first African American woman to attend Winthrop University.  
Courtesy of The Roddey McMillan Record



Cynthia Roddey in the 1960s  
Courtesy of The Louise Pettus Archives



Cynthia Roddey speaking at Winthrop August 1994  
Courtesy of The Louise Pettus Archives



Roddey's home she lived when she first applied to Winthrop, 415 W. Main Street, Rock Hill. / Courtesy of The Louise Pettus Archives

said. "After 45 years, I thought I would go to a class reunion. I was the only one in my grad class attending. The undergrads 'adopted' me and I went back for the 50th. I think I talked to one other grad that year. Since there is a former co-worker in student affairs now, I have been taking my clients to some recent events."

The Roddey McMillan Record publication on campus is partially named after Cynthia Roddey.

"I am honored to have the Roddey-Mac carry my name," Roddey said. "I believe in its purpose to be inclusive and to ensure there is an awareness of minority issues and accomplishments."

During her time at

Winthrop College, Roddey was especially influenced by Dr. Harrar.

"Dr. Harrar, Dean of the LS department, became a mentor," Roddey said. "She steadfastly guided me from day one until graduation. She was responsible for getting me a job in Charlotte by just picking up the phone. She made sure

that I was a WC success story. I definitely had the skills I needed to work in a field that was transitioning from the wooden drawer catalog to computerized systems for media service."

Dr. Harrar also helped Roddey with securing a job.

"Dr. Harrar picked up the phone and recommended me for a job

to another WC alum," Roddey said. "Prior to that, I have not been able to even get an interview. Sometimes you have to know somebody. I work in that school system for 30 years as a teacher, media coordinator, and teaching assistant principal."

Roddey was an educator from 1960 until 2017 when she retired.

"I have enjoyed seeing how many of my students have excelled and am grateful that I played a part in helping them to be their best selves," Roddey said.

"If you are not a teacher who is willing to learn from the students or learn with them, you are in the wrong job. It is never going to be about money. It is always going to be about

sharing your knowledge so we all can have better lives."

Roddey is also the CFO for Special Needs and Abilities Family Empowerment (SAFE). SAFE is a non-profit advocacy for neurodiversity.

"Our agency helped other parents to find resources, so they did not have to pull their children from public school," Roddey said.

Concerning the current diversity of Winthrop University Roddey said, "I think WU has made a concerted effort to encourage a diverse staff and student body. If there are areas needing improvement, it would be desirable to listen to issues and work with the minorities to find solutions."

## Senior citizens feel "just like any other student" at Winthrop

South Carolina allows senior citizens to seek free tuition education

JADA STRONG,  
Staff Writer

In South Carolina, senior citizens are allowed to attend university free of charge with the exception of paying for class fees and textbooks themselves.

Gloria Jones, former director of the composition program and current student advocate, a position she pitched two years ago after retiring from Winthrop, works with students on academic success and also helps senior citizen students find courses.

"I retired two years ago, in March, and decided that I wanted to do what I had been doing previously, which was to work with students who were having some academic difficul-



Laveta Evans completes her homework in DiGiorgio campus center  
Jada Strong/The Johnsonian

ties because there were some outside influences that were impacting their academic progress," Jones said.

"And part of that also is, because there was nobody else who was dedicated to working with senior citizens. I now work with them if they need additional help."

While the process of being approved as a senior citizen student is fairly simple, many of the requirements are

similar to any undergrad student.

"They have to be a resident of South Carolina, they do not have to have a previous college degree or anything. The process is that they must apply to Winthrop. And they must provide us with their latest transcript, whether it's a high school transcript or a college transcript. Jones sees that senior citizens having this opportunity builds a bond

between the community to have a variety of educational opportunities.

"It builds connections with the university and the community. Being able to see both sides of the coins builds the Winthrop experience," Jones said.

Laveta Evans, who is a 64-year-old student, is currently in her third year at Winthrop as a graphic design major. A degree wasn't required for the career she had at the time.

"I was fortunate enough that I came from an era where you didn't have to have a degree to get into business. And I just worked my way up and ended up in finance. I work for a very large finance company," Evans said. "But I always wanted a college degree. So when I retired, I needed something to do. So I thought, 'Okay, I'll get my degree, and then actually do what I want to do,' not what I ended up doing."

Going to Winthrop is very convenient for Evans for the free tuition and being close to family.

"But I really came now, because the cost of college is expensive. And once I knew that there were these programs, I thought, well, I'll just wait till I retire to go to college, instead of worrying about student loans."

Jane Smith, another senior citizen, is a 73-year-old woman who is a non-degree seeking student and a former Winthrop professor.

"Winthrop was an easy choice because I taught here for 32 years. I wanted to take classes for lots of reasons. There were so many classes I never got to take in the past, and also, I wanted to do something that would be challenging and make me stretch my mind," Smith said. "I have always loved being in the classroom, listening to student opinions, and this gave me a chance to do that without having to grade the papers!"

While Smith is just taking classes out of enjoyment, she is only taking one course this semester.

"The classes make me think; I'm already planning my first paper for Dr. Hiner, even though she told me I don't have to write one."

Although Smith has suspected some students may be curious about whether she's faculty or a student, she has always known she is welcomed and belongs at Winthrop.

"I think sometimes students on campus assume I am faculty, but no one has ever asked me about that outright. I'm not really sure about how the students in classes feel. Last semester in Dr. Cothran's class, there were several students training to be tutors and they wanted to ask me questions about how tutoring had helped the tutors I worked with," Smith said.

"I think the professor's attitude about having me in the class sort of makes the students comfortable. Dr. Belk grilled me just like he did everyone else, so that was fun—seriously. I was just one of the students."

Lily Hayes  
Photographer

## The Thread will bring more restaurants, retail & event space to Rock Hill



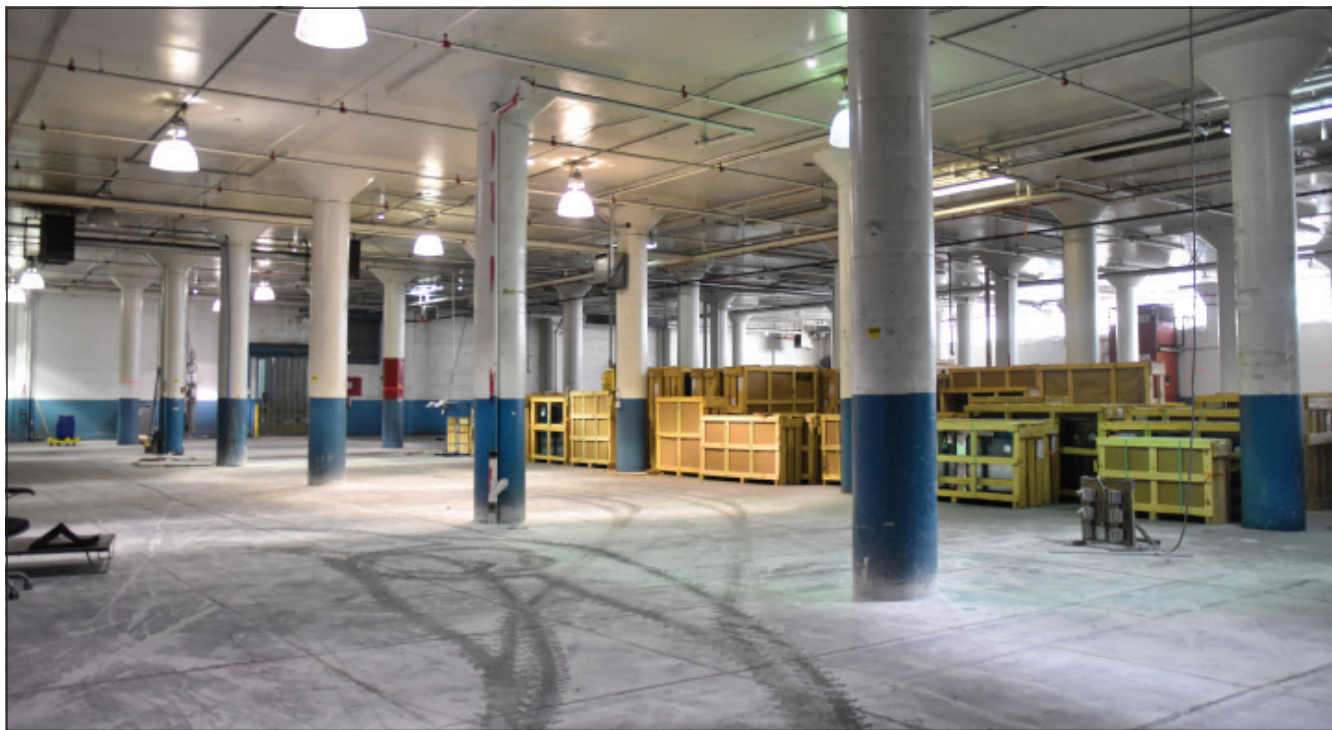
Projected look of what the courtyard will look like. Courtesy of The Thread



The Thread will become a place for students of Winthrop University and people of Rock Hill to eat, shop, live, and work. / Courtesy of The Thread



The first two floors of the Thread are projected to be an open floor entrance way filled with shops and restaurants. / Courtesy of The Thread



This space will be turned into a large courtyard for people of all ages to gather, shop, and eat.



Projected look at what the main stairwell will look like. / Courtesy of The Thread



The Thread will "weave together and connect Old Town Rock Hill and Winthrop University"



While it's being used as an elevator during construction, this area will eventually turn into the main stairwell connecting the lobby to the offices.



Most of the walls on the first and second floor will be demolished in order to have an open floor lobby area filled with shops and restaurants.



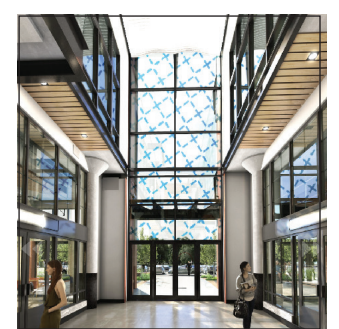
According to Jon Little of Choate Construction, the front of the building will go from fully brick to being covered with glass windows.



The second and third floors are currently being leased to become offices different tenants including restaurants and possibly a brewery.



What was once a part of the large front exterior wall will be demolished and turned into a two-story glass entryway for the Thread.



You can see what the finished project will look like, including the two-story glass entryway by going to <https://micro.littleonline.com/TheThread/>

## Coming soon to Winthrop: The QuickFlix Film Festival

DSU is putting on a film festival with entries by many Winthrop students

Zoe Jenkins  
AC&T Editor

Soon, there will be a chance for aspiring filmmakers and Winthrop students to showcase their artwork.

This event is the QuickFlix Film Festival hosted by Winthrop's own DSU on Feb. 24, 2023

All students interested or who have pieces to share are welcome to enter their short films or screenplays by the due date of Feb. 10th, 2023.

All short films are required to play for no longer than 20

minutes

Submissions are entered with the possibility of an award as well as the chance of entering the National or International Film Festival awards.

Several flyers with QR codes that contain the form for entries are placed variously across campus.

Other places to enter include the link embedded on the Winthrop website under the quick search of "QuickFlix Film Festival."

The official film festival and award ceremony will take place at 7 p.m. in Dina's Place.

This is the first time that the film festival has happened.

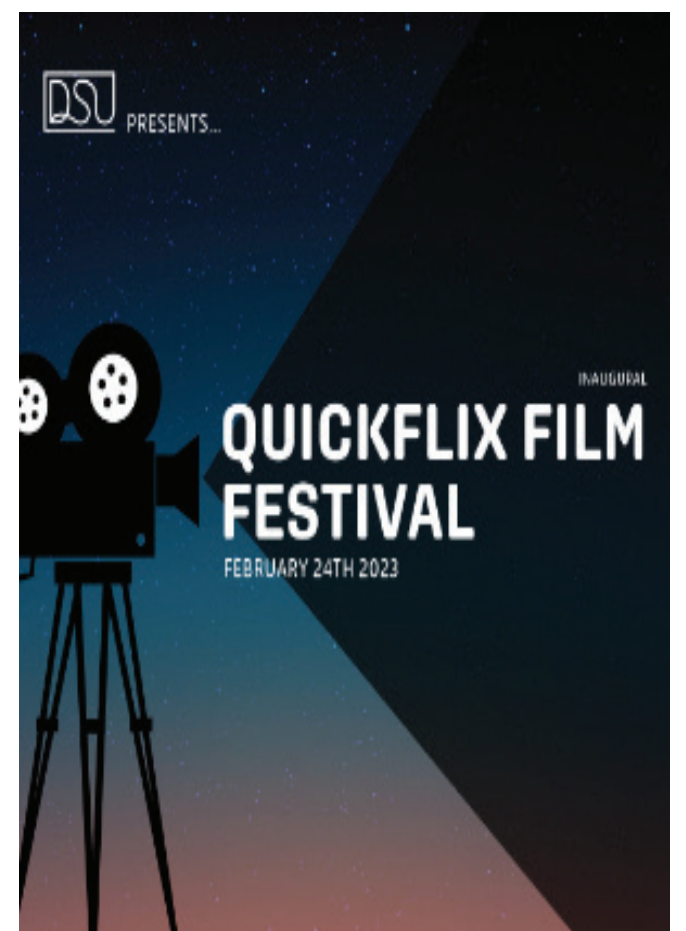
Even professors are encouraging their students to enter and be a part of the festival.

"I'm encouraging illustration students to submit their sizzle reels from the 2022 fall Animation class," Elizabeth Dulemba, associate professor of design, said.

Those interested in learning more about the art of filmmaking and the elements of video production, Winthrop's Video Production Club explores, dissects and practices fundamentals of film production and meets on Thursdays from 11 a.m. to noon in Johnson 102.

These fundamentals include editing, camera work, filming, sound design, writing, working as a team, etc.

The Video Production club has not entered the QuickFlix Film Festival this year but intends to make a short film later in the semester.



Courtesy of Winthrop



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## Spring sports preview- Lacrosse

Coach Conchek's team is laser focused heading into the season

Maliik Cooper  
Sports Editor

Head coach Kara Conchek has been adamant about the type of culture she's aiming to build with Eagles lacrosse.

"We have continued to promote player-led leadership initiatives which shape and enhance our team culture. This promotes buy-in and accountability within this process. It is important as a coach to ask for feedback and allow for each team member to bring their unique skill set to the table." Conchek explained.

"It is important to highlight the strengths of each individual to continue to identify what we want our team to embody. Empowering the voices of each team member is something I really value and have continued to implement in our daily practices."

Coach's team appreciates this approach, and it invigorates them to be the best they can be.

"One strength our team has noticed about Coach Kara's coaching style is that she takes note of all of our coaching preferences. She has gone out of her way to learn who needs a harder, more intense approach and who needs a more personable, one-on-one type of approach. Her ability to adapt to all of our preferences has made a very positive impact within the group." said junior attacker Sydney Semel.

Coach Conchek used words like grit, resilience, comradery and determination to describe what the identity of this year's group will be. She then closed her statement emphasizing that her team would "...embody family in everything that we do."

Additionally when highlighting her expectations for this upcoming season Conchek made sure to lay out the discipline she expects her team to play with.

"We expect to be as prepared as we can be heading into each game, and really put 60 minutes together of Eagle lacrosse. Our expectations include continuous improvements and highlighting who we are and what we can accomplish together."

That being the case, Conchek acknowledges where most of her players are in their collegiate athletic careers. "We are incredibly young," she said in reference to her team being half freshman. "But there are also returning key players within our unit."

Winthrop will be bringing back their top two offensive threats this season with seniors Alyssa Angelo and Molly Dankowski, the top goal scorer and shot attempter from last year's team. These two were also named two of the four captains for the 2023 season along with junior midfielder Grayson Mackenzie and graduate student defender Jenna Diebert.



Coach Conchek drills her group as this year's team looks to capitalize on their potential

Maliik Cooper/The Johnsonian

Semel believes in the potential of this group, even going so far as to describe them as "...the strongest group of players we've had in my three years here."

That talent could serve the Eagles well when the stakes are heightened against conference rivals. Semel cited Furman and Mercer among the games Winthrop lacrosse will have circled on their schedule.

"Mercer and Furman are the most competitive games. We've been back and forth when playing Mercer in these past years. Mercer is

a very gritty team and I love seeing everyone play against them with a chip on their shoulder. With Furman also just joining the Big South conference we've already had competitive, over-time games from the past year in the back of our heads to create a new rivalry."

Although these games will mean something extra to the players, Conchek insists on staying even-keeled and treating every game with respect.

"We really aim to focus on one game at a time, certainly with the goal of securing post

season play. We are process oriented, and focus on one opponent at a time. Staying present is what allows us to focus on what's important in the day to day, and it's these details that pay off within our outcomes."

The rivalry games against Mercer and Furman will take place in back to back road games on April 5th and 8th. Before that however, Winthrop lacrosse will begin their season in two weeks at Eagle Field in a faceoff with Kennesaw State.

## Spring sports preview: Track and Field

How Coach Jay is changing the culture with Winthrop's track team



Winthrop triple jumper Mario Jamison lands with poise as he refines his jump

Maliik Cooper  
Sports Editor

As second year track Coach Jay prepares his team for competition this year, he does so not only by training their bodies, but also freeing their minds of unnecessary stress.

"I think the athletes are a lot more relaxed, and a little happier

Courtesy of Adiah21Studio ersus what they've been in the past." Jay said in regards to his team mentally.

According to Jay, this shift comes from his relatability to Winthrop's runners. "I'm 24. We definitely have a different relationship that most college athletes don't have with their coaches because I'm closer to their age and I know what it's like. I went here.

I competed here. I know exactly what it's like to be a student-athlete at Winthrop."

200M sprinter Kevin Brown agreed with Jay's assessment stating "I feel like coach is setting us up to be in a good place. Especially in the next couple months. And down the road. We got a good freshman group here. We're coming in every day ready to work and I feel like we're set up for success in the future."

Although Coach Jay wants this group to succeed as much as possible in the short term, he also takes into account the position these athletes are in with many of them having just started college.

"We still have a really young team. Over the course of the whole track team there's about four seniors and not a ton of juniors. We're all very young. Getting them comfortable competing at the division one level is the goal so in the next couple years we can become a powerhouse." Jay said about his plans for this group of runners. "It's exciting."

While they appreciate Jay's emphasis on openness and communication the current roster of athletes have no intention of taking this year for developmental purposes.

"Everybody's gonna give 110% like they do at practice here. We all know what we have here and we all know what we can do. We've just gotta go out and produce," Brown also stated.

Coach Jay knows what his goals for this group are this year. "I have some indoor school records that I'm focused on. Just to get some of those school records into my name."

He emphasized the importance of having these goals when discussing the mental grind track and field can have on the athletes.

"The sport's hard. Practice sucks because you're just preparing all this time to do an event that lasts 10-20 seconds. It's about keeping them engaged and making sure there's goals that we're looking to hit. We're in a good place right now. We're getting back to a place where we can compete at a higher level."

In order to accomplish this, Jay has focused on the importance of refining the technique of his runners.

"Once we get to November,

December, January, we start putting technical pieces together. My hurdlers really focus on the aspects of their event that aren't to do with fitness. My jumpers do technique. My sprinters sprint a little more often, and with a little more purpose, rather than just getting fit."

Brown concurs with this appraisal of the current activities the short distance runners on the track team are

engaging in saying "It's been a lot of technique. Working on technique and conditioning coming into the season as we are a young team... coach has really just been working with us on that... technique and energy."

The first opportunity to see the fruit of all this training will be this Saturday when the Eagles head on the road for their season opener at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia.



Winthrop 200M sprinter Kevin Brown looks onto the track with expectations for this upcoming season

Courtesy of Adiah21Studio

# After 100 Years: the origins of The Johnsonian

An explanation of The Johnsonian's first issue, and what it meant for Winthrop University.

Autumn Hawkins  
Opinion Editor

In November of 1923, The Johnsonian was officially approved -- printing its first issue less than two weeks later.

When Winthrop's founding president, David Bancroft Johnson, was approached with the proposal, he admitted that he had had similar ideas and wanted to create a student publication specifically for Winthrop College. He sent out a survey to each of the classes individually in order to ascertain student interest based on classification level.

The entire college responded with almost unanimous support, and the seniors began vetting their classmates to find the first Editor-in-Chief; Josephine Weinberg was officially elected by the committee and quickly began planning the first issue. On Nov. 21, 1923, Winthrop history was changed as the debut issue of The Johnsonian was printed and distributed across

campus.

In this issue, the articles detail everything from sports to advertisements for local businesses. There is also a column explaining how The Johnsonian got its name. The staff held a contest to see if students could come up with a name before the first publication date. According to the debut issue of The Johnsonian, names like "The Blue Dress" and "The Tigress" were considered before the newspaper's current name was chosen. The winner of the contest, Edna Jordan, received ten dollars as a reward -- over one hundred dollars today.

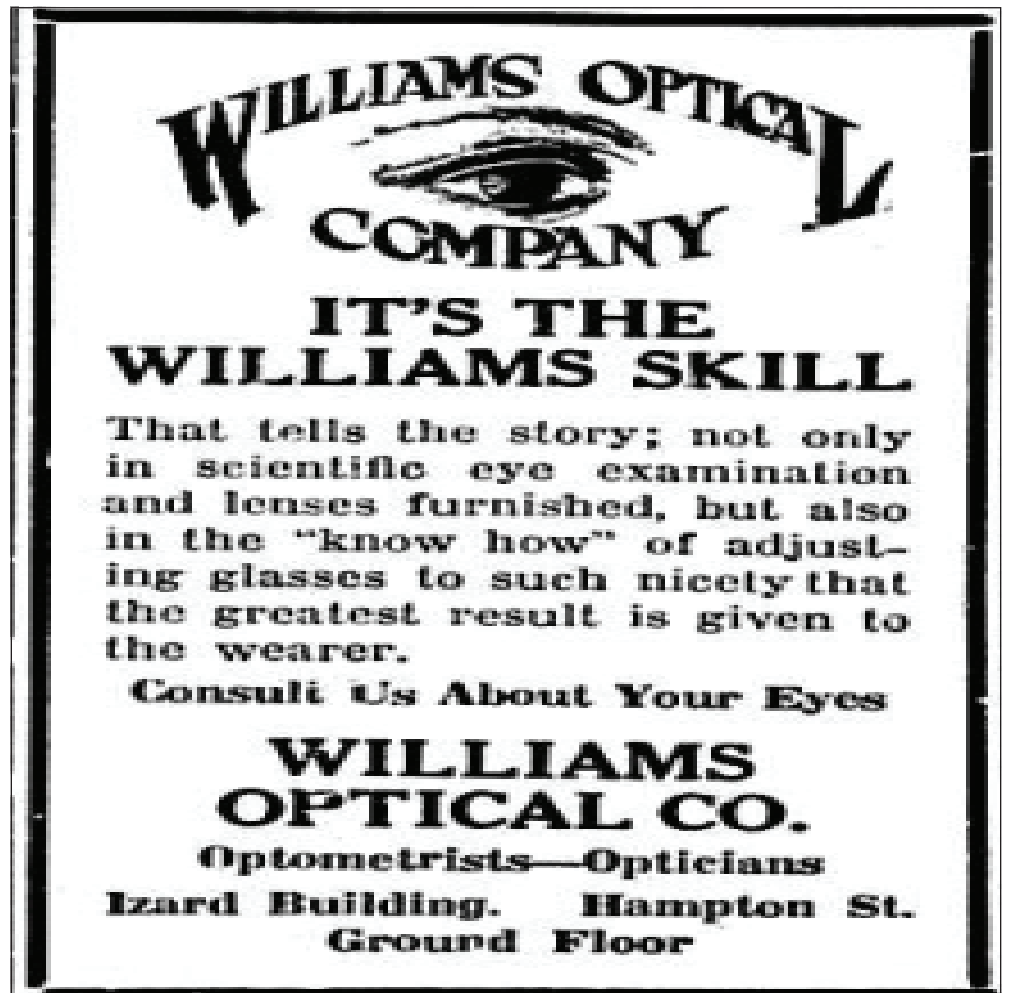
The pilot issue of The Johnsonian also gives modern students a glimpse into what Rock Hill was like during the twentieth century. Advertisements for pharmacies, clothing stores and tea shops take up the majority of the publication, giving insight into what sort of businesses college students frequented before the

Great Depression.

There is also a request from the staff to patronize the businesses that have supported the publication -- creating a circular economy in what was, at the time, a small town with limited patrons.

Now, nine months before the centennial anniversary of the first publication, The Johnsonian is a thriving publication. Though The Johnsonian was originally run by the English department, it has since been passed on to the Department of Mass Communication. Since its inception, The Johnsonian has published hundreds of issues discussing thousands of campus events, community news and the opinions of the Winthrop community. Since its inception, The Johnsonian has been named first in general excellence in its division and the best student newspaper in South Carolina by the South Carolina Press Association.

Despite the countless evolutions of The



An ad from a local business that was featured in the first issue of The Johnsonian in November of 1923

Courtesy of Louise Pettus Archives

Johnsonian throughout the past century, one value has remained at the center of each publication -- student collaboration and a sense of community. Each published issue highlights how the Rock Hill and Winthrop communities are growing and meshing. Since 1923, The Johnsonian has served as

the meeting place for the two communities -- whether that is shown through advertising small businesses, reporting on Rock Hill events or simply being one of the longest running student publications in South Carolina.

The first issue -- as well as hundreds of others -- of The Johnsonian is stored at

Louise Pettus Archives, with digital copies being provided for free on their website. The Johnsonian encourages Winthrop's students and faculty to read these crucial pieces of the university's history, as they give insight into how the campus culture has shifted since its inception.

Mariana Beltran  
Cartoonist

## Reveille: Misunderstanding



**LEVEL UP**   
**FOR CHANGE**   
 respect. communication. consent.

Find resources at:  
[levelupforchange.org](http://levelupforchange.org)

For on-campus support visit:  
[Winthrop.edu/CSW](http://Winthrop.edu/CSW)

This used to be your favorite seat. **Now it makes your skin crawl**, because all you can think about is what happened there the other night.