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Profile on adjunct professor John Holder



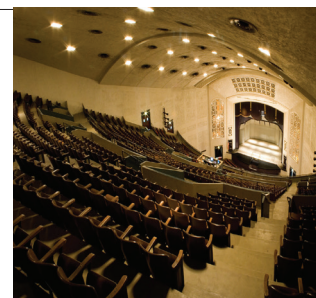
What Greek Life is all about



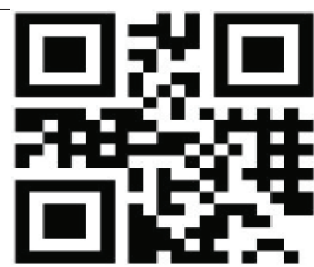
Alumni Spotlight: Kristen Thoennes



Spotlight on DSU Lunar New Year event



Repairs and updates around campus



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Byrnes Auditorium construction has a tentative end date in sight

Department of music speaks on Byrnes Auditorium renovations

Jada Strong
Staff Writer



Jada Strong/The Johnsonian

The exterior of Byrnes Auditorium which is currently undergoing extensive renovations

In August of 2018, Byrnes was shut down due to a rooftop fire during construction. Since then, reconstruction has halted and resumed and is currently making new accommodations to allow the auditorium to become ADA-compliant as it wasn't before Byrnes was closed.

Dr. Elisa Koehler, the chair of the department of music, wasn't working at Winthrop during the time of the fire but has since been able to see the interior of Byrnes and has been able to be kept up on details regarding renovations. Koehler has also been informed that construction will be able to begin sometime in the near future.

"They always planned to renovate Byrnes because the main issue that I want to emphasize is the building is not handicapped accessible. It's not ADA-compliant. So that's what the renovations were originally for back in 2018," Koehler said.

While it has been almost 5 years since the shutdown of Byrnes, Koehler wants to address the concerns on the delay of construction and why there hasn't been much change in the state of Byrnes.

"I can tell you there was insurance litigation in the wake of the fire during the pandemic. And we would probably assume that if everything shut down for the pandemic, it would be the perfect time to fix a building when no one is there, right? But we weren't able to do that for various legal issues that I am not privy to," Koehler said.

"But the good news is that we have selected a contractor to do the work. I was on the committee that selected what we call the CMR which decides who will be doing the actual work, and they will start soon. I can't tell you when I don't know. We are not able to say anything yet. Other than that, we do have a company selected to do

the work and we're in final negotiations for their contract."

Byrnes, for many, is considered the heart of the music department and it has been disappointing as well as an adjustment for current students and former students alike to not have access to the building.

Current 5th-year senior, Taylor Fussell, was excited for the chance to perform at Brynes Auditorium when she started, yet it was quickly halted as the year she enrolled happened to coincide with the start of construction on Byrnes.

"I was actually on campus the day it closed. So my freshman year, my class, the class that was supposed to graduate in 2022, we were actually the last class to have our convocation in that auditorium. Right after we left, they closed the doors of Byrnes and sealed it up, and they were going to start reconstructing it," she said

Fussell elaborated, saying, "The first day of classes that fall, there was the initial fire that happened. "But I only had one opportunity to play on that stage. It was actually as a prospective student. I was here, doing a tour of campus doing my audit for the music department, and I got to sit in with the wind symphony ensemble on that stage. So that was really my only experience on the stage and then my convocation in the auditorium."

Fussell expressed frustration over how the shutdown of Byrnes has impacted her and her fellow classmates.



Courtesy of Winthrop University

Elisa Koehler, chair of the department of music

"From what I've known after talking to some friends, some people have come to Winthrop for that auditorium," Fussell said. "They come for Brynes and to not have that opportunity to play there while being here has been very disappointing for them."

Anne Lewis Turner, now a graduate assistant of the department of music, used to perform in Byrnes frequently and can understand the importance of Brynes and what it's like to have the chance to perform and appreciate that space.

"We had to fill up this huge venue, this huge auditorium. So for rehearsal purposes, it was great, I mean, we're in this great space, we have plenty of room to move around. We have storage, and we can understand our responsibilities as a musician," Turner said.

"I guess the difference is now, that many of the students here don't know any difference, since we now rehearse in one auditorium."

Turner hopes that when Byrnes is restored, that people who had missed opportunities will be able to enjoy it in the future.

"I really hope that maybe when it does open again, there's like a big celebration or a grand opening, like a huge concert and maybe get the alumni involved."

Pipes burst in multiple places across campus

Water damage impacts multiple buildings across campus

Ainsley McCarthy
News Editor



Mari Pressley/The Johnsonian

Much of the art had to be discarded after the flood

In an email to The Johnsonian, Vice President of Facilities Management James Grigg stated that "a fire sprinkler pipe froze and broke a cast iron fitting" on Dec. 25, as a result of the freezing temperatures and windchill.

According to the message, it had reached the single-digits leading up to the incident, and contributed to water leaks saturating all three floors of the building on the side closest to Tillman, with the most significant damage being on the back area of the main hallway.

Grigg said the first steps for repair involve drying out the affected areas and removing ruined drywall, which took place between December 25 through Jan. 8. Next, facilities management was tasked with "mak(ing) the space functional for the short term and then coordinating putting back finishes in the impacted areas." Lastly, they are also in the process of

restoring the furniture and other contents with water damage.

The restoration will likely occur in phases to minimize the inconvenience for faculty, staff and students. The tentative schedule includes working over select weekends, spring break and then finishing over the summer months.

Grigg suspects that the insulation boards in the attic of McLaurin might have been too small or thin to be fully effective in the severe weather.

Aside from McLaurin, the only reported dormitory affected was Courtyard, where two suites were damaged when their sprinkler heads froze.

Grigg notes that these accidents are not unique. Clemson University, the University of South Carolina and Appalachian State all sustained infrastructure damage due to the freezing conditions. Preventative measures will be reevaluated to prevent future occurrences.

The Johnsonian reached out to professors in the College of Visual and Performing Arts, but both declined a request for comment.



Mari Pressley/The Johnsonian

Much of McLaurin remains covered like this as a result of the flood

Marley Bassett | Editor-in-Chief

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African-American Studies program reflects on its storied history

Dr. Belk reflects on the 30th anniversary of the African-American Studies minor

Marley Bassett
Editor-in-Chief



AAMS logo

Thirty years ago, a program was established that has now become an integral part of the academic offerings at Winthrop University. The African-American Studies minor encompasses both the Black experience in the United States and the African diaspora across space and time.

The program was initially proposed to the former dean of the college of arts and sciences by Dorothy Perry Thompson who, at the time, was a professor of English at Winthrop University.

The dean appointed nine faculty members, including Thompson, who served as chair, to serve on the African-American Studies Minor Committee. This committee was established to explore the feasibility of establishing an



Courtesy of Winthrop University

African American Studies minor.

In 1993, the African-American Studies minor was officially established.

In light of the program's 30th anniversary, we sat down with Adolphus G. Belk, professor of political science and former director of the African-American studies minor, to discuss the minor and his experience within the program.

"I have been a member of the African American Studies advisory committee since I started working. So I'm a member of that advisory committee. And for, gosh, about 10 years, I was the program director," Belk said.

He continued saying that "I've been a member of the committee this entire time. The courses that I've taught in the program include introduction to

African American Studies, which is the gateway course with the discipline. I've taught African American politics and policy, race and ethnic politics. And just last fall, a special topics class on hip hop and politics that I hope becomes a regular feature of the curriculum."

Although Belk teaches a variety of classes within the discipline, he says his favorite is always changing.

"My favorite class is the one I happen to be teaching at that moment. For the opportunity it offers me to introduce people to interesting ideas and concepts, to debate those ideas and concepts, to talk about important policy issues or to look back to the past to understand the impact that the past has on this particular moment in time."

Other prominent members of the minor include Nathaniel Frederick, associate professor of mass communication, and current chair of the African-American Studies committee

and assistant history professor, Jennifer Dixon-McKnight.

Each professor brings a different intellectual background and discipline to the program.

"We belong to our respective fields, some people are trained in African American Studies, and they get master's degrees and doctorate degrees in the subjects," Belk said.

He also stressed that even though some faculty members have a strong background in African-American studies, many others have studied in fields that would be considered closely related to African-American studies that allow them to study some aspects of the Black experience.

"And it's that part of their work that offers a connection to this intellectual endeavor we call African American studies. So you have people who are trained as political scientists, historians, mass communication scholars, educators, that are a part of African American Studies. The discipline itself is interdis-

iplinary by nature. So when I'm teaching intro to African American Studies, I'm less concerned with the discipline that provided the content that we're learning from," Belk said.

He also reflected on the difficulties that come with teaching a minor that has its intro course in high demand.

"So I'm gonna say there's a critical mass of people out here interested in these things, right. And if we're going to call ourselves a university, and we're going to educate people on the world, Africa is a part of the world, the black Caribbean is part of the world. And there are opportunities for study through humanities and social science courses or science courses. There should be opportunities for study abroad, to be able to go to these places and do work, right? But that requires resources. And that can be tough, because there are multiple and competing demands on scarce resources."

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Police Blotter

Ainsley McCarthy
News Editor

On Jan. 17, the Responding Officer (R.O.) approached a car on the suspicion that the driver was texting, and under the influence of marijuana. Upon searching the car, the R.O. found two smoking bowls and a digital scale in the driver's possession, along with 1.3 grams of marijuana. They received three state citations.

On Jan. 19, The R.O. met with a subject at the Good Building to serve them with a restraining order that had been placed against them by another person. The R.O. explained the implications of the document before leaving the area.

On Jan. 19, the R.O. met with a Phelps resident about a post made on the social media platform, YikYak. The victim reported that she saw a suspicious person outside the building resembling their ex-partner. Security footage was reviewed, but the officer saw no such person. The victim was advised to request a safety ride from WUPO if they feel unsafe.

There were three incidents on Jan. 20 of subjects being cleared by arrest for driving ten miles or less.

On Jan. 22, the R.O. conducted a traffic stop. Upon observing the subject fail to follow a traffic signal, the R.O. searched the vehicle on suspicion of marijuana possession. The subject denied possession, but the officer found a small piece of marijuana and an open bottle of vodka in the backseat. There was also an open package of cigars in the ashtray. The officer issued two citations to the subject and referred them to the Dean of Students office.

On Jan. 23, the R.O. conducted a traffic stop in response to a suspicious driver navigating without their headlights on. 1.2 grams of marijuana was located when the R.O. searched the vehicle.

DSU Lunar New Year event gives students a chance to learn more about Asian culture

The scoop on DSU'S Lunar New Year cultural event

Jada Strong
Staff Writer



Dr. Chang speaking at DSU Lunar New Year

On Saturday, Jan. 21st, DSU held a cultural event in Richardson Ballroom to teach students about the Lunar New Year and to let them experience some traditions that included a short lecture about the holiday by Dr. Catherine Chang, dances by the Queen City Lion Dancers, and performances by two secondary

students playing the Chinese harp.

Dr. Chang, an assistant professor of history, was very excited to share this holiday experience with Winthrop University and talk about it with students.

"The Lunar New Year has been a really important part of traditional societies, in many Asian countries, including

including China, Korea and other Chinese-speaking areas or areas influenced by Chinese culture," Dr. Chang said.

"It is a really important time, just like Thanksgiving or Christmas in the United States. The families should be together."

Chang also noted how she was excited to share how this holiday has evolved and how traditions have changed over the passing years.

"I will introduce the different practices in different areas of traditional China. And I will introduce some new changes in their practices today," Chang said. "It depends on the country because the customs have been

changing a lot. It depends on every country's degree of modernization. So they would keep or kind of drop certain customs."

Chang also spoke about how she's happy that there's finally been so much progress in making Lunar New Year a national holiday.

"This year in California, they have made the Lunar New Year a holiday. So I think this shows respect to a really important group of people in this country. And then, in that case, although we are in South Carolina, we can see that we still are living in this world, with a lot of interactions with people of different races in the world.

And to know their cultures, it is the beginning to build true friendship.

Abby Russo and Quinitn McCray, who are both seniors, attended the cultural event and had a great experience learning about Lunar New Year.

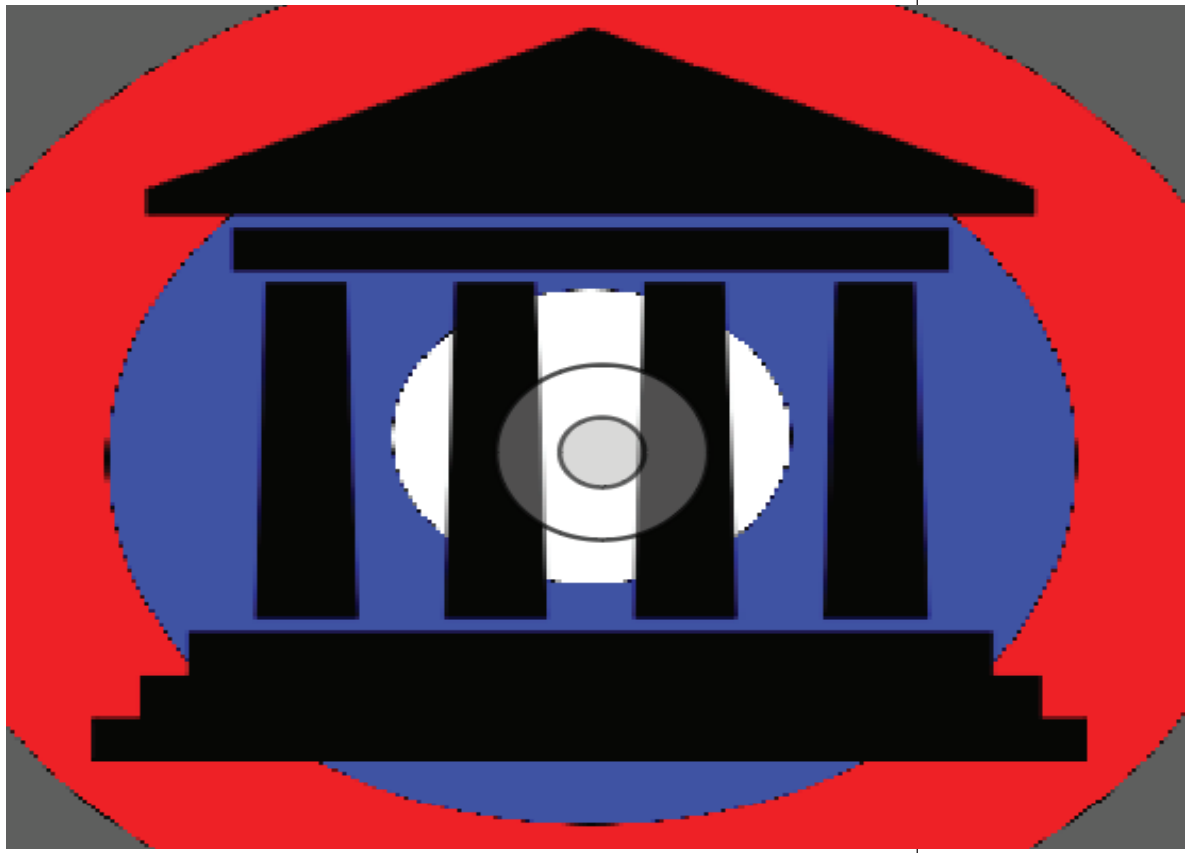
"I thought it would be cool to learn about a culture that I'm not super familiar with," McCray said.

Russo said she because she had received a red envelope invitation and was interested in learning more, "A lot of my friends sent me red envelopes that they use for Lunar New Year and I just wanted to come and learn more about their culture and learn more."

This Week in American Politics

Accident or Hypocrisy?: Classified documents found in Biden's possession

DAVID IBRAGIMOV,
Staff Writer



The Biden administration is currently facing extreme backlash from the Republican party. The reason for the backlash: classified documents.

This week, more classified documents were found in Biden's Delaware home, containing a total of six classified documents, which were immediately surrendered to the National Archives.

This all began in the previous fall when classified documents were discovered in Biden's office at the Penn Biden Center, a think tank located in Washington D.C..

Although Biden claims that he was not aware of these documents and did not know how they got into his posses-

sion, critics point out that the first batch of documents was found on November 2nd, a few days before the midterm elections and during his open outrage against former president Donald Trump and his neglectful mismanagement of classified documents.

During an interview with CBS News, Biden was asked how he felt about the classified documents obtained in Trump's residence of Mar-A-Lago, "How could that possibly happen? How could anyone be that irresponsible," stated Biden.

"It's hard to see it as anything but hypocrisy, obviously. It is bizarre, frankly, to have President Biden criticizing former

President Trump for his mishandling of classified information without anyone on the president's team saying, 'Hey, let's make sure that we don't have a similar problem ourselves,'" said Sarah Isgur, a staff writer for The Dispatch.

Although White House lawyer Richard Sauber stated that the Biden administration has worked hand in hand with all investigative bodies, many Republicans are skeptical of this being an accidental coincidence.

"For months, NARA failed to disclose to committee Republicans or the American public that President Biden — after serving as Vice President — stored highly classi-

fied documents in a closet at his personal office."

"NARA learned about these documents days before the 2022 midterm elections and did not alert the public that President Biden was potentially violating the law," said James Comer, a Republican house representative from Kentucky.

A recently elected leader of the House Republicans, Kevin McCarthy, also weighed in on the matter, stating that even though he does not intend to pursue criminal action against Biden, this incident demonstrates the hypocrisy of the double standard.

"These documents have been around even longer. Pres-

ident Trump had never been in office before and had just left. Here's an individual (who) spent his last 40 years in office. It just shows that they were trying to be political with President Trump," stated McCarthy.

Even with the aggressive condemnation from the Republican side, the Biden administration continues to strongly stand with its statement that what has taken place was unfortunate, but in no way close to the incident at Mar-A-Lago.

"The White House is cooperating with the National Archives and the Department of Justice regarding the discovery of what appear to be Obama-

Biden Administration records, including a small number of documents with classified markings," Richard Sauber, special counsel to President Biden, said in a statement.

Since that discovery, the President's personal attorneys have cooperated with the National Archives and the Department of Justice in a process to ensure that any Obama-Biden Administration records are appropriately in the possession of the Archives." Sauber concluded.

It is not clear how involved Biden was or how severe the penalties for possession of classified documents will be after the concluded investigation

Winthrop professor John Holder on his time as an Eagle: 'Thanks for having me, Winthrop!'

AINSLEY MCCARTHY,
News Editor

After the November 2 John Holder, a professor in the department of political science, is retiring in May after 22 consecutive years in the profession. He began teaching at Winthrop in 1995, and left in 2005 to pursue his doctorate in Public Policy at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

He has been back consistently since 2012, and regularly tells students about how he paid for graduate school using the prize money he was awarded when competing on a December 2004 episode of Wheel of Fortune.

He is the fourth generation of his family to be a part of the Winthrop community. He

attended the Mac-Feat Nursery School and Kindergarten as a child while his mother taught political science courses on campus. He also has ancestors who were on the Board of Trustees.

Throughout his own career, he has sought to provide students with the knowledge necessary to work within the system. This includes knowing how to organize precincts, mobilize voters, campaign, and successfully create and pass bills to promote equity.

According to his LinkedIn profile, Holder has taught a variety of courses including Introduction to American Government, State and Local Government, Public

Opinion, The Judiciary, The Congress and more.

He said that The Congress is his favorite class to teach. He co-taught it alongside Karen Kowdrewski before eventually taking it over, and particularly enjoys it because of its final project. The final imitates "simulations" similar to those conducted by Model United Nations, where they form committees to write, debate and pass bills.

"The spring 2019 version of that class had eighty students in it, so we were able to form a House and Senate, multiple committees, and consider multiple bills. The people in there included some of the most fun students

He says teaching at Winthrop gave him the opportunity to give back, and continue family tradition

I ever had. Instead of a final exam, we continued the simulation during the exam period. At the end, Dr. Mahony came in and did a "presidential bill signing" of the bill that they'd passed. The students loved it, and so did I."

He also encourages students to learn outside of the classroom as well. He advises them to practice self-care, and to be open to new possibilities.

"If you had told me the day that I graduated from college that I would end up spending more than 20 years as a professor, I would have thought you were insane. I started out as a Congressional staffer, and I originally planned to run for office. I would have



Courtesy of Winthrop Digital Commons

a terrible candidate," he said, "Your education is a privilege that most people in the world don't get. Use it to make the world a better place, however you define that."

Over the years he interacted with many new faces, but one in particular that resonates with him is that of Shannon Barber. She was a non-traditional student who attended Winthrop in her thirties. She was known for her role as president of the College Democrats, and for her work with the local Democratic Party. However, over the duration of 5 classes, Holder got to know

her more personally.

"Shannon and I used to joke about how many intersectionality boxes she checked off — she was a non-religious Black lesbian with a disability. She'd been discriminated against in all kinds of ways. She had every reason to be angry about a lot of things. But probably the proudest moment of my career was when she told me that I'd made her less cynical. That meant a lot."

His interactions with students have served as an opportunity to guide students through historical and current events.



Zoe Jenkins / The Johnsonian

Answers About Greek Life

As spring recruitment occurs for many of Winthrop’s Greek chapters, it is critical to understand what is and what isn’t Greek Life.

ZOE JENKINS,
Arts, Culture & Tech
Editor

Springtime is a significant part of the year for Greek life across campus. The spring ushers a new chance for recruitment and the possibility of joining Greek life.

For many students, the words “sorority,” “fraternity” and “Greek life” comes with negative connotations and stereotypes of hazing, partying 24/7, cruel pranks and drama overload.

These misconceptions and stereotypes often are sourced from scenes in college movies, TV shows and books.

Often, these depictions may factor in preventing students from joining Greek life. Students may fear the possibility of brutal humiliation, harm or even worse.

But according to a source that prefers to stay anonymous, sororities and fraternities on

the Winthrop campus are not like they appear in media depictions.

“Greek life has a lot to do with bonding with your people and also a lot to do with helping the community. We do a lot of community service to help the area and offer lots of scholarship opportunities,” the source says.

“I think it gets a bad reputation because of certain individuals. It can get a bad reputation because people hear that there is hazing. NPHC and CPC are non-hazing organizations.”

The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) and the College Panhellenic Council (CPC) are the two umbrella organizations that serve as council executive boards that oversee Greek life. On the Winthrop campus, there is also the Interfraternity Council (IFC) which serves as another

executive board along with NPHC and CPC.

Greek organizations have been a long tradition in American society, dating back to the 1700s when the first fraternity Phi Beta Kappa was founded at the College of William and Mary to be a place for students to congregate outside the classroom.

Since then, Greek life has spread across the US and even into Canada, becoming a staple in many college settings. Over 800 college campuses in the US are home to Greek life.

The fraternities and sororities on the Winthrop campus include: Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., Alpha Delta Pi Sorority, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., Chi Omega Sorority, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Phi

Mu Alpha Fraternity, Delta Zeta Sorority, Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc., Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity, Zeta Sigma Chi Multicultural Sorority Inc. and Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority.

Each of these chapters has its own expectations, creed and philanthropy.

Some philanthropic services these organizations help fund and volunteer for include the Ronald McDonald House Charities, Make-A-Wish Foundation, Breast Cancer Awareness and many more.

“I like [Greek life], it has its ups and downs and I feel like I belong. I’ve met a lot of new people being in a sorority. I love helping out the community”, the source says about enjoying being a part of Greek life.

“Don’t knock until you try it. Go to interest meetings. Go to events. Even if you don’t want to go, you meet a lot of people whether you are Greek or not and they can help your community.”

So why should someone go Greek?

“Another community thing. If you are a big person in wanting to help the community and you don’t know how, or feel a bond that is different than you ever had before, or if you want scholarships, there are some you can try for. You will have a great time in Greek life or sorority life in general.”

Greek recruitment generally occurs in both the fall and spring semesters. What is crucial to know is that depending on the semester, those interested in joining will have different expectations.

Formal recruitment,

that takes place in the fall semester, often includes a pre-planned schedule to follow over a certain period, also known as “rush.”

Informal recruitment schedules depend on the individual sorority or fraternity. Each chapter has different scheduling of events than other sororities and fraternities.

Prospective members will have to show their interest in recruitment by coming to events of the organizations and chapters.

“Don’t feel like you won’t belong because there is a place for everybody,” the source wants everyone to know.

More information about Greek life and recruitment can be found by visiting chapter recruitment events or through the information listed on a chapter’s social media.

A list of Resources in Winthrop’s Arts Department

Take a look at some of the resources available to students of all majors via the Winthrop Art Department.

Rutledge’s Student Library:

On the second floor of Rutledge, there is a student library where students have access to Mac desktops. Students can also print documents and check out music or books.

Friday Arts Project:

The Friday arts project is an organization open to both current students and alumni. While the Friday Arts project seeks to “mentor future artists and host events specifically tailored to them,” the group hosts discussions, drawing nights, an arts festival called Art Party and more. Along with a curated art gallery, they have a studio at the Getty’s Art Center where many of their events

take place.

Music Library:

With a valid ID, winthrop students can access “scores, recordings, and videos of classical music and jazz as well as reference works and other materials for the study of music theory and history.” according to Winthrop’s website. And, while students can use Dacus Library’s OneSearch, they also have access to a music database.

ST-Arts Program:

The Winthrop ST-Arts which started back in 1989 is a program where students “work in collaboration with participating districts from York and Lancaster counties to serve over 300 gifted and talented students

in the arts grades 6 - 8 (rising 7th, 8th, and 9th graders during the June program).” The program welcomes students on Winthrop’s campus for three weeks each year and is led by a roster of 45 artists from all over the country created by the SC Arts Commission. Auditions for 2023 ST-Arts have ended. Email starts@winthrop.edu for more information.

WUG Talks:

Winthrop University Galleries hosts Artist Talks where students can gain insight into the conceptions of Winthrop Artists’ work. Winthrop students can receive cultural event credit while it’s also free admission for everyone.

Read more at mytjnow.com



Gabe Corbin / The Johnsonian

MARI PRESSLEY,
Managing Editor

The Creator Space:
The Winthrop
Creator Space pro-

vides students with access to a Laser Cutter, a 3D Printer and a Whisper Booth (sound proofed area). At the Creator Space, you can check out a

wide range of equipment including video and photography cameras as long as you present a valid Winthrop ID.

Alumni Spotlight: Kristen Thoennes '08 was a part of the WU crew

2008 Winthrop alumni remains active in volunteer work after being involved in similar groups on campus

Sam Hyatt
Staff Writer



Courtesy of Kristen Thoennes

Kristen and her husband Charles in the Faroe Islands

Kristen Thoennes, an alumni from the class of 2008, was active in groups on campus and spent time attending various events on campus.

Thoennes was active in an on-campus club called Alpha Omega, a Christian women's fraternity. The group would attend weekly meetings, complete service projects and go on retreats together. She also held the position of president of the club during her

senior year at Winthrop.

"President was fun because I had a part of the whole organization, not just one piece," Thoennes said. "I could work with all of our chairs and lead the group. I ran our weekly business meeting. It was definitely not as exciting or fun as some of the roles within the club, but rewarding, nonetheless. It gave me some great experience that I have leaned on since,

in my adult life while volunteering with other organizations."

The newest members of Alpha Omega were called cherubs and would have a secret big sister who would give them gifts each week during their first semester.

"My friend and I served as cherub moms together," Thoennes said. "We planned information sessions, set a theme for the semester, planned welcome week activities, a retreat (we went to the Riverbanks Zoo) and the sister initiation before Christmas break. It was so fun meeting the new members, getting to know them and seeing what their big sisters gifted them each week."

Thoennes was a political science major and graduated

with a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science in 2008.

Dr. Cornish, a history professor, was her favorite professor while at Winthrop and took several of his classes, specifically an Irish history class.

"For that class, most of our assignments were essays and one of them he submitted on my behalf for a history department award. I ended up winning! It was very empowering to be put up for the award. I would not have pursued that on my own because I did not think my writing was anything special."

Dr. Lipscomb was also another professor that Thoennes was fond of and took his theory class as a requirement for her political science career.

"The one that was offered my senior year was feminist theory taught by Dr. Lipscomb and it was so fascinating and thought-provoking," Thoennes said. "Prior to that class, I had never thought of myself as a feminist. Growing up in conservative South Carolina, the concept of feminism gets a bad name. However, I learned there is so much more to feminism."

Thoennes was able to attend numerous Winthrop basketball games and was a part of the "WU Crew". She also got the chance to cheer on the eagles as they went on to the NCAA tournament.

"Around my time at WU, the WU Crew was established. It was so fun to have a section of really dedicated fans to help us all get into the spirit," Thoennes said. "Basketball games were a big deal since the team was so successful. Games were loud and full of energy."

As an alumni, Thoennes is not currently involved with the university because she and her husband have been living in Germany over the last few years because he is in the military. But, while they were stationed at Shaw Air Force base in Sumter, South Carolina, Thoennes served on the Alumni Association board.

"It was amazing to visit campus on a regular basis and work to keep our alumni community connected," Thoennes said. "It was really hard to step down from that volunteer position."

Thoennes is currently putting time towards volunteering as the marketing manager of the Military Spouse Advocacy Network and is the publicity, social media and website chair for the Stuttgart Community Spouses Club. She is hoping to further her career after she finishes her Master's Certificate program in social media marketing.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service across Winthrop University's campus

Lily Hayes
Photographer



Students woke up early on MLK day to participate in maintaining the garden at Campus Green.



Student volunteers planted trees at the recreational fields (farm)



Students participated in cleaning the Campus Green Garden by trimming dead plants, weeding, and mulching.



Students planted trees at the recreational fields (farm) as part of a service project on January 16th.



Volunteers dug holes in order to plant new trees at the Winthrop recreational fields.



To begin the project, students dug up old trees in order to plant new ones at the recreational fields.

WU Men's Basketball Secures Their First Road Win of the Season

Winthrop MBB Defeats Campbell 78-74 for their First Road Win and their Third Against Big South Competition

Maliik Cooper
Sports Editor

Winthrop men's basketball recently went on the road to Buies Creek, NC for a conference matchup with the Campbell University fighting Camels. During that game, the Eagles were able to reach a new and important milestone for the year.

A 19 point second half (finished the game with 23) from junior guard Sin'Cere McMahon spurred a massive improvement in Winthrop's offense over the course of the second half (scored 33 in the first half compared to 45 in the second). The men went on to win the game by four, 78-74. It was their first road win of the season thus far.

Winthrop's won the majority of their home games this year, boasting a record of 6-3 at Winthrop Coliseum.

Despite this however, head coach Mark Prosser isn't satisfied with their current rate of winning.

"We're really used to taking care of home. We've lost two (at the time) home games this year and it makes us really uncomfortable," coach Prosser said. "We've gotta pick it up. It's getting late in the year. Whether it's (on the) road, whether it's home, we have to be on edge from here on out."

Last season under coach Prosser the Eagles went undefeated on their home court, finishing with a record of 13-0. Their season ended last year with a loss in the Big South Championship game to Longwood.

If Winthrop wants to get back to that stage, they need to start winning games just as coach Prosser

explained. They currently sit at seventh place in the Big South with ten games to go.

Individually, junior forward Kelton Talford is also on the verge of accomplishing something. If his scoring output can increase even slightly before the end of the season, he'll surpass former Winthrop guard Nych Smith and become top ten in Winthrop history or points per game.

Talford is also leading the Big South this year in field goal percentage, second in rebounds per game, and fourth in points per game.

Two of Talford's teammates are also putting up conference leading individual stats. Junior guard Kasen Harrison is fourth in the Big South in assists per game and senior forward Chase Claxton is fourth in blocks per

game.

If you narrow the stats down to conference only play, Sin'Cere McMahon (who spearheaded the win at Campbell) is also leading the Big South in free throw percentage.

Individual success aside, it remains to be seen how the final ten games of conference play will be handled by the Eagles, especially with half those games being on the road.

Winning out (winning their final ten games) would put Winthrop at third place in the Big South if everyone stays at their current pace.

RANK	TEAM	POINTS	TREND
1	14 Purdue	513	+2
2	6 Alabama	508	+2
3	1 Houston	450	-2
4	Tennessee	427	+4
5	UCLA	419	-
6	Arizona	407	+5
7	Kansas	397	-5
8	Kansas State	380	+6
9	Virginia	366	+1
10	Texas	347	-4
11	TCU	299	+2
12	Iowa State	285	-
13	Gonzaga	268	-6
14	Xavier	262	-5
15	Marquette	216	+3
16	Auburn	200	-
17	UConn	161	-2
18	Baylor	151	+3
19	Charleston	131	+1
20	Miami (FL)	109	-3
21	Florida Atlantic	104	+3
22	Saint Mary's	100	+3
23	Providence	77	-1
24	New Mexico	52	NR
25	Clemson	42	-6

Via Patrick Felts and Student Media Poll

Student Media Poll's Current Top 25 in MBB

SCHOOL	BIG SOUTH	CPCT.	OVERALL	PCT.	HOME	AWAY	NEUTRAL	L10	STREAK
Longwood	7-1	.875	15-6	.714	9-1	6-5	0-0	9-1	W3
UNC Asheville	7-1	.875	15-6	.714	8-0	6-5	1-1	8-2	W6
Radford	6-2	.750	12-9	.571	7-1	4-8	1-0	6-4	W5
USC Upstate	4-4	.500	9-10	.474	7-1	2-9	0-0	4-6	L1
Gardner-Webb	4-4	.500	9-11	.450	4-3	4-8	1-0	6-4	W1
Campbell	3-5	.375	8-12	.400	4-5	3-6	1-1	3-7	W1
Winthrop	3-5	.375	8-13	.381	6-3	1-9	1-1	3-7	L2
Charleston Southern	3-5	.375	7-12	.368	5-5	2-7	0-0	4-6	L3
High Point	2-6	.250	10-10	.500	7-3	1-7	2-0	2-8	L1
Presbyterian	1-7	.125	5-16	.238	5-4	0-10	0-2	3-7	L7

Via bigsouthsports.com

Winthrop's current standing against the other teams in the Big South conference

Winthrop Athletics Upcoming Schedule

Wednesday, 1/25/23:

Women's Basketball @ Charleston Southern, 6:00pm EST

Men's Basketball vs. Charleston Southern, 7:00pm EST

Friday, 1/27/23:

Men's and Women's Track and Field vs. VMI Invitational, TBD

Saturday, 1/28/23:

Men's Basketball @ Presbyterian College, 2:00pm

Women's Basketball vs. Presbyterian College, 2:00pm



Courtesy of Brett Redden and Winthrop Athletics

The Big South Leader in field goal percentage skies for a layup attempt

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OPINION, GAMES & COMICS theJohnsonian

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Exciting changes at Winthrop

AUTUMN HAWKINS,
Opinion Editor

A glimpse into what changes are happening on and around campus this semester and beyond.

There are a number of exciting changes happening on campus this semester, as well as further in the future -- construction, landscaping, repairs and upgrades are happening all over campus.

Long-term on-going projects are being continued, and hopefully completed this year. While this school year is quickly coming to a close, the current progress on these projects looks hopeful for a 2023 completion date.

The renovations being made to the pavement between the West Center and DiGorgio Student Center were started in June of 2022. Facilities Management projected that this project would be finished during this past fall semester, but there was construction in this area as recently as two

weeks ago.

While an official updated completion date has not been announced, they have replaced nearly all of the pavement in this area; the only part that has not been renovated is the sidewalk area leading to Courtyard.

With the coming of spring, landscaping is imminent. Winthrop's landscapers come every spring in order to tend to the campus flora and fauna as well as replace any that died during this winter's cold shock. As the weather improves, students can expect to see them weeding flower beds, mowing the grassy areas and trimming broken or dead limbs off of the trees.

Also happening this semester is the addition of new emergency call buttons. Winthrop's "Blue Boxes", or emergency service call stations, have

a reputation of not working or contacting emergency services within a reasonable amount of time.

Starting in December of 2021, Winthrop has slowly been adding newer models of emergency call stations around campus. Newer models were installed around Courtyard in October, so students can expect to see them in other areas around campus before the end of the spring semester.

A longer term project ongoing during this semester is the gradual introduction of new and upgraded security cameras. According to the Computing and Information Technology website, this project began in October 2021 and has seen consistent progression towards a June 2023 completion. There has not been an update on

their progress since this past November, when the cameras in academic buildings started to be replaced.

After the fire that impacted Byrnes auditorium in 2018, there was uncertainty around when -- or if -- repairs would start. Facilities Management confirmed that renovations began in August 2022 to fix the fire damage, and that these repairs would be completed around March 2023. The auditorium's doors may open once more before the end of this semester.

In November, Facilities Management also began upgrading the auditorium's bathrooms, railings, and seating to ensure that it follows ADA guidelines for accessibility. These upgrades are projected to be completed at the start of the 2023-2024

academic year.

Necessary changes to Winthrop's on-campus housing will also be completed soon. Phelps and Lee Wicker have been approved for a repair to their roofing, but Facilities Management has not released an official start date; it was estimated that Phase II approval of these repairs would happen in June 2022, but no update has been made to their website.

The demolition of Richardson and Wofford also has been submitted for approval, but no definitive dates have been released.

While it is unclear whether they will happen this semester, these changes are among the first to be approved during Phase I.

Winthrop has multiple ongoing projects happening

on campus, and this semester seems to be a turning point for the projected timeline of these renovations. 2023 is going to be a big year for Winthrop's campus, and promises an overall better student experience.



Courtesy of Flickr

The interior of Byrnes Auditorium

Reveille: Meet the Characters!



Mariana Beltran/The Johnsonian



LEVEL UP 
FOR CHANGE 
respect. communication. consent. 

Find resources at:
levelupforchange.org

For on-campus support visit:
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.