

**A Presentation  
To The  
South Carolina Commission  
on Higher Education**

**A Time of Transition and Renewal**

August 2013

*Presented by Dr. Jayne Marie Comstock,  
President of Winthrop University*

## ***Transition and Renewal for Winthrop University***

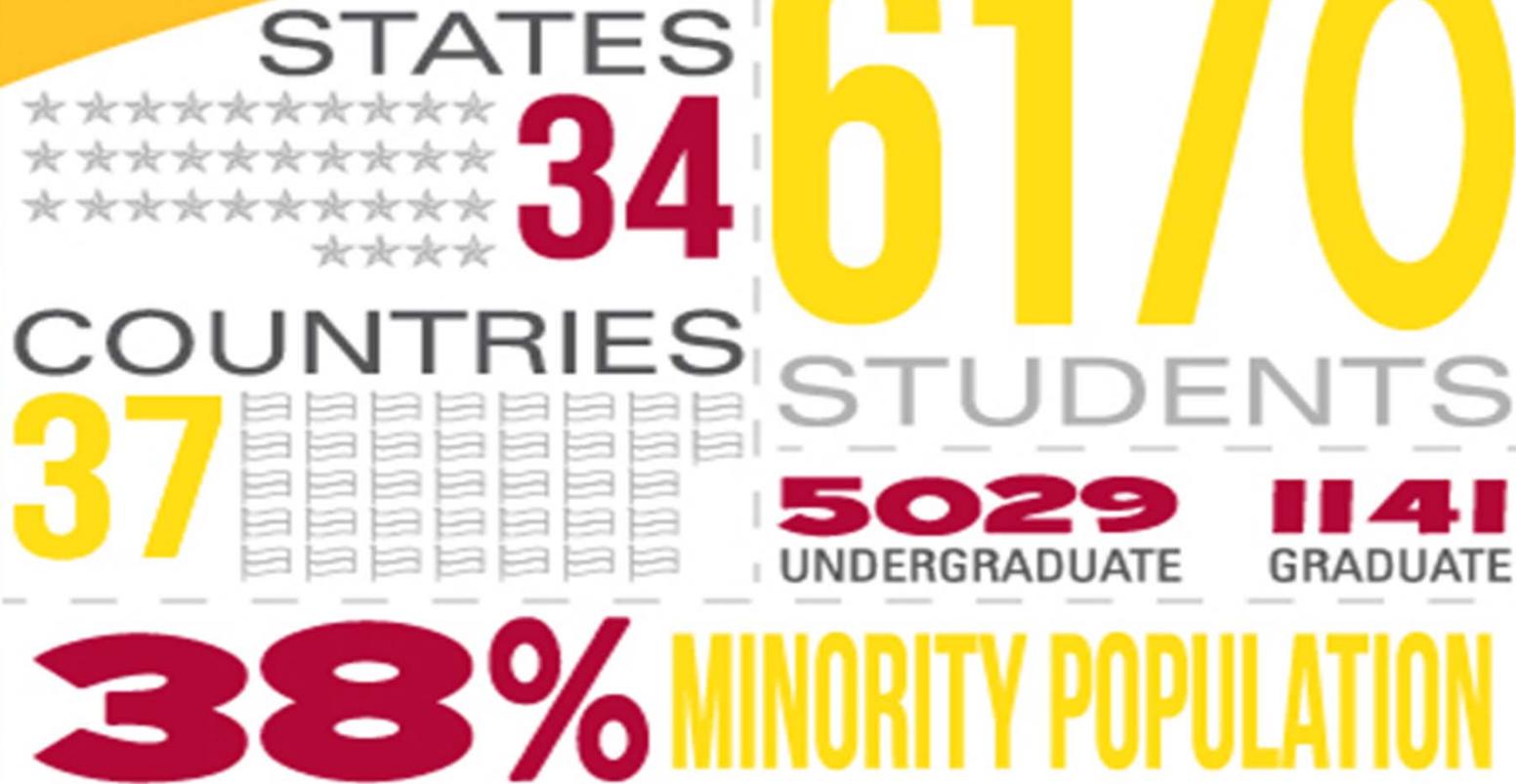
**WU welcomes the newest president among South Carolina's public universities**

**When we do great things for education, we realize the great things education can do for our students, our cities, our country, and our world.**

***-- Dr. Jayne Marie Comstock***

## Fast Facts About Winthrop University

BASED ON FALL  
2012 DATA



And perhaps most important to you as Commissioners:  
**Winthrop serves 87 percent in-state students!**

# Fast Facts About Winthrop University

BASED ON FALL  
2012 DATA



42

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

26

20+

YEARS AS A U.S. NEWS  
TOP REGIONAL UNIVERSITY

15:1 student/faculty ratio



# Winthrop's legislative mandate

*Winthrop is mandated  
to offer a **first-class** education  
'as the progress of the times may require.'*

This means **transformation** occurs over time in  
not only **what** an institution offers,  
but **how** it is offered.

## ***Fast Facts About Winthrop University***



***'As the progress of the times may require:'  
From a one-room school in Columbia  
to 435 acres on two campuses in Rock Hill.***

## ***Making Higher Education A State Priority in S.C.***

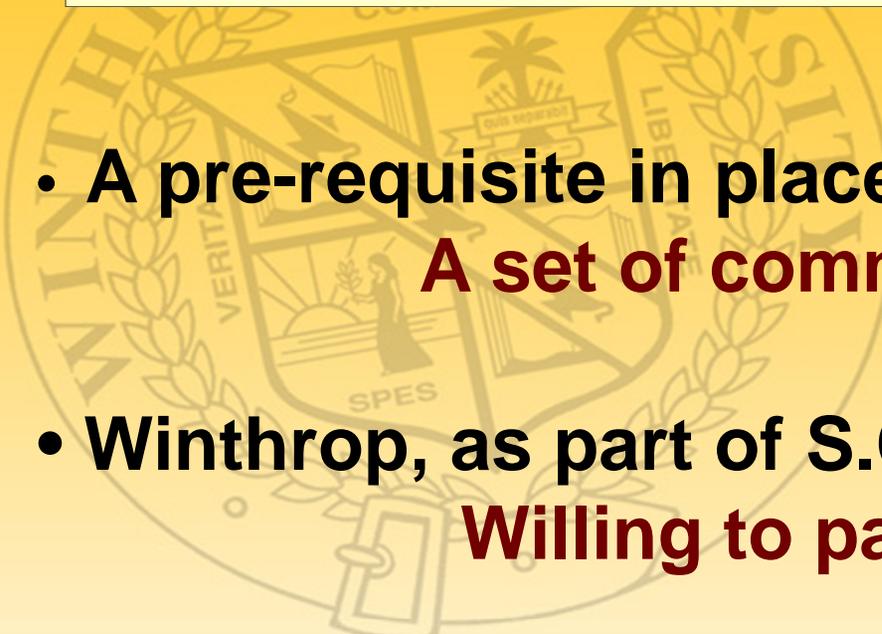
Percentage of S.C. residents ages 24-64 holding at least an associate's degree\* is declining:

- **2009: 34.9%**
  - **2010: 34.8%**
  - **2011: 34.2%**
- 
- **As a new president of a S.C. public institution, one of my primary objectives is to help turn these numbers around.**

*\*Lumina Foundation, from U.S. Census  
American Community Surveys*

***A time of transition and renewal for Winthrop,  
and transition for higher education overall***

**The opportunity for all U.S. citizens,  
regardless of their socio-economic class,  
to have access  
to quality higher education ...  
is the key civil rights issue of our time.**



***Making Higher Education  
A State Priority in S.C.***

- **A pre-requisite in place:**  
**A set of common goals**
- **Winthrop, as part of S.C. network:**  
**Willing to partner**
- **Key to all we do:**  
**Quality**

**Quality is not an easily definable metric, but it counts**

**“The real key to economic opportunity and advancement depends not on whether the student possesses a credential, but rather on whether students actually leave college with that rich portfolio of learning that employers seek and society urgently needs.”**

**--Carol Geary Schneider, President  
Association of American Colleges and Universities  
writing in *'Where Completion Goes Awry'***

**Quality is not an easily definable metric, but it counts**



***Quality higher education = Impact***

# Winthrop University Level Competencies:

*Students 'Learn How To Learn' for a Lifetime*

***Touchstone*** courses--designed to:

***provide a foundation of competencies***

***and habits of mind that will both***

***meet contemporary expectations and***

***serve students over time, regardless of their major.***

# Winthrop University Level Competencies:

Students '**Learn How To Learn**' for a Lifetime

*Already in place are the following:*

- 1 – The capacity to **think critically** and solve problems.
- 2 – The capacity to **be** personally and socially **responsible**.
- 3 – The capacity to **understand the** interconnected nature of **the world** and the time in which they live.
- 5 – The capacity to work as part of a **problem-solving team**.
- 6 – The capacity to use **technology fluently**.
- 7– The capacity to **innovate**.

# **Winthrop Core Commitments**

*for Personal and Social Responsibility*

***Winthrop's **Touchstone** courses also initiate personal thought and reflection about these lifelong values-based commitments:***

- ***Achieving excellence***
- ***Cultivating personal and academic integrity***
- ***Contributing to a larger community***
- ***Taking seriously the perspectives of others, and***
- ***Developing competence in ethical and moral reasoning***

-- Winthrop was one of the first 18 U.S. institutions to commit formally to the Association of American Colleges and Universities' Core Commitments for Personal and Social Responsibility Project in 2007.

## ***Statewide Budget Considerations Going Forward***

The seal of Winthrop University is a circular emblem. It features a central shield divided into four quadrants. The top-left quadrant contains a sun rising over a landscape. The top-right quadrant contains a palm tree and a banner with the motto "OUR MOURNERS". The bottom-left quadrant contains a figure holding a staff. The bottom-right quadrant contains a book. The shield is surrounded by a laurel wreath. The words "WINTHROP UNIVERSITY" are written around the perimeter of the seal. The Latin words "VERITAS" and "LIBERTATE" are on the left and right sides, respectively. The word "SPES" is at the bottom. The year "1776" is at the top. The word "CUM" is at the top left. A key is at the bottom center.

**Having impact  
requires resources**

A Report of the Higher Education Study Committee

# Leveraging Higher Education for a Stronger South Carolina



**From the state's own 2009 study:**

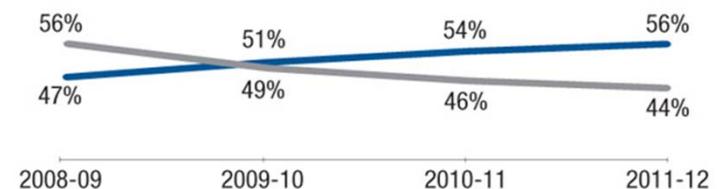
(1) Recommendation 4.1.: **Fund higher education at the SREB average or above.** *"...if South Carolina wants to see its economy flourish, it must also promote higher education through additional support from general fund appropriations."*

**Yet look what's happened since 2009:**

## College Revenues

Ratio of State Appropriations  
to Tuition and Fee Revenues

Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities, SREB States



Tuition and Fees — State Appropriations —

A Report of the Higher Education Study Committee

# Leveraging Higher Education for a Stronger South Carolina



**From the state's own 2009 study:**

(2) Recommendation 4.2.: **Support routine and predictable capital funding of colleges and universities....** *"The last bond bill for higher education in South Carolina was approved in 2000. Absent subsequent bond funding, our colleges and universities have been at a distinct disadvantage when compared to institutions in Georgia, Kentucky, and North Carolina."*

# **Winthrop Budget Requests**

The background of the slide features a large, faint watermark of the Winthrop University seal. The seal is circular and contains the text 'WINTHROP UNIVERSITY' around the top edge and 'VERITAS LIBERTAS' around the bottom edge. In the center, there is a shield with a sun, a book, and a banner that says '1776'. Below the shield is a book with the word 'SPES' written on it.

**Winthrop holds itself accountable for  
delivering programs that provide  
positive outcomes and  
measurable impact,  
and asks that the following requests be  
considered in that light.**

**Winthrop is fulfilling its public mission through  
programs *with impact***

***A quick update on just some works in progress:***

- **Increasing retention and persistence.**
- **Streamlining credit transfer and student movement from a 2-year degree to 4-year degree.**
- **Assisting adult learners in obtaining degrees.**
- **Collaboration on economic development.**
- **Building the S.C. workforce in the sciences.**

## Investing in support of programs proven in pilot years

Winthrop's Academic Success Center has had impact on Winthrop retention rates:

### *Overall freshmen to sophomore retention rates*

- *Fall 11-12: 73.2%*
- *Fall 10-11: 72.1%*
- *Fall 09-10: 69.1%*
- *Fall 08-09: 67.3%*



## **Extending similar approaches to adult learners: *Winthrop Resource Center for Adult Learners***

**Older students (25-59) are finding support that attracts them to Winthrop:**

- ***Fall 2011: 437 students***
- ***Fall 2012: 453 students***

**Veteran enrollment, a special area of emphasis for the Center, is growing as well:**

- ***Fall 2011: 104 veterans***
- ***Fall 2012: 114 veterans (+12 more not receiving benefits)***

## ***Continuing to invest in developing workforce talented in the sciences***

Winthrop invests heavily in STEM programs.

Undergraduate students get hands-on lab experience.



*Daisha Holton of Rock Hill, a rising high school senior and aspiring Winthrop student, talks with Winthrop President Jayne Marie Comstock, left, and Chemistry Professor Cliff Calloway, right, about her experience in a summer lab program designed to encourage talented S.C. students to pursue degrees in the sciences.*

# **Recurring Funds Request Number One:**

*State funding for presently 'other-funded' science faculty*

**3 Biology Assistant Professors (2.25 FTEs)**

**2 Chemistry Assistant Professors (1.5 FTEs)**

**1 Chemistry/Physics Assistant Professor (.75 FTE)**

**1 Human Nutrition Assistant Professor ( .75 FTE)**

**1 Lab Specialist (1 FTE)**

**SUBTOTAL: \$623,700** (6.25 FTEs move from other-funded to state-funded)

***IMPACT: Winthrop has seen a significant increase in science majors through its work in these fields:***

- *Biology grew from 320 students in 2005 to 420 students in 2012.*
- *Chemistry grew from 73 students in 2005 to 133 students in 2012.*
- *The Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) program has grown from 10 students when it began in Summer 2008 to 36 participants in Summer 2013.*

## **Recurring Funds Request Number Two:** *State-funded new FTEs for high growth programs*

<b>1 Business Assistant Professor</b>	<b>(.75 FTE)</b>
<b>1 Social Work Assistant Professor</b>	<b>(.75 FTE)</b>
<b>1 Academic Student Services Staff</b>	<b>(.75 FTE)</b>
<b>SUBTOTAL: \$202,500</b>	<b>(Add 2.25 FTEs)</b>

### **ANTICIPATED IMPACTS:**

- Address growth in College of Business enrollments in “electronic commerce.”*
- Increase available workforce for in-demand social work personnel.*
- Continue emphasis on academics (yielding solid GPAs) for increasing numbers of Winthrop student-athletes, whose practice and conditioning facilities are over a mile from main campus, an assistant for the on-site Student-Athlete Study Center is requested.*

## Recurring Funds Request Number Three: Bridge Program Support

1 University College Advisor	(.5 FTE)
2 University College Faculty	(.2 FTE)
1 Records & Registration Specialist	(.5 FTE)

Training for Peer Mentors

**SUBTOTAL: \$60,000\*** (1.2 FTEs move from other-funded to state-funded)

*\*Could be bundled with similar requests from other institutions.*

***Anticipated impact***—Winthrop and York Tech expect this program to bring additional students – estimated 30 in the initial year -- into the higher education pipeline, with ultimate increased degree attainment for South Carolina at both the associate and bachelor levels.

## Total Recurring Funds Requests From Winthrop University

1. Use state-funded FTEs to replace 'other funded' FTEs in science-related programs	\$ 623,700
2. Add state-funded FTEs for high-growth programs	\$ 202,500
3. State support for Bridge Program staffing	\$ 60,000
<b>TOTAL RECURRING FUNDS REQUEST:</b>	<b>\$886,200</b>

***Anticipated Impact*** – Increasing Winthrop University's already substantial contributions to meeting the state's goals regarding retention, degree attainment and workforce development.

# Capital Funding Request Number One:

*One-time allocation of \$2.9 million*



**COST ESTIMATE:** Remaining \$2.9 million of \$3.4 million

**SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES:** National Register of Historic Places designation requires new roof to be historically accurate. Withers/WTS roof is original – 101 years old – and has been patched numerous times.

Space houses both teacher preparation and a lab school for 3-5 year-olds.

# Winthrop budget request for capital bond bill

*Future  
Winthrop University  
Library/Learning  
Technology Hub*

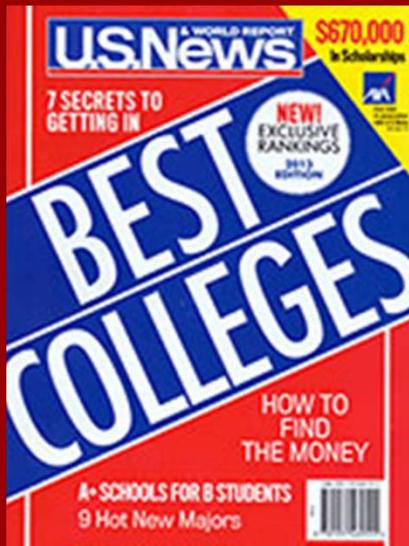


**COST ESTIMATE:** \$50 million (in 2010)

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** This project will be a replacement library and technology hub that has been designed to serve up to 12,000 graduate and undergraduate learners and faculty with contemporary information resources, research guidance, and inter-disciplinary experiences.

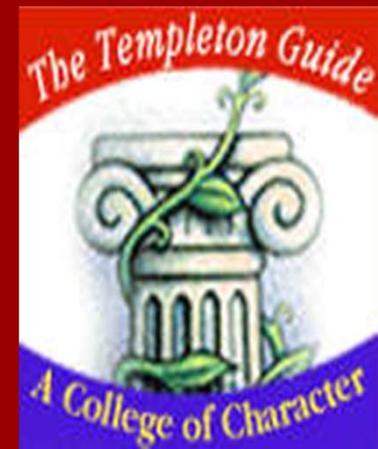
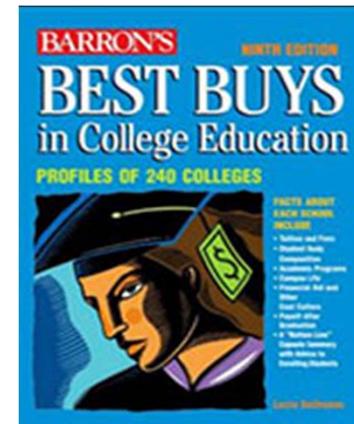
**ANCILLARY BENEFITS:** The project is to be sited in the City of Rock Hill's urban core redevelopment zone, known as the Knowledge Park, which is characterized by nearby abandoned textile mill properties that have been targeted by local government for redevelopment through public-private partnership.

# Institutional quality has been built over two decades at Winthrop...



*The Princeton Review*

Best  
Southeastern  
Colleges  
2014



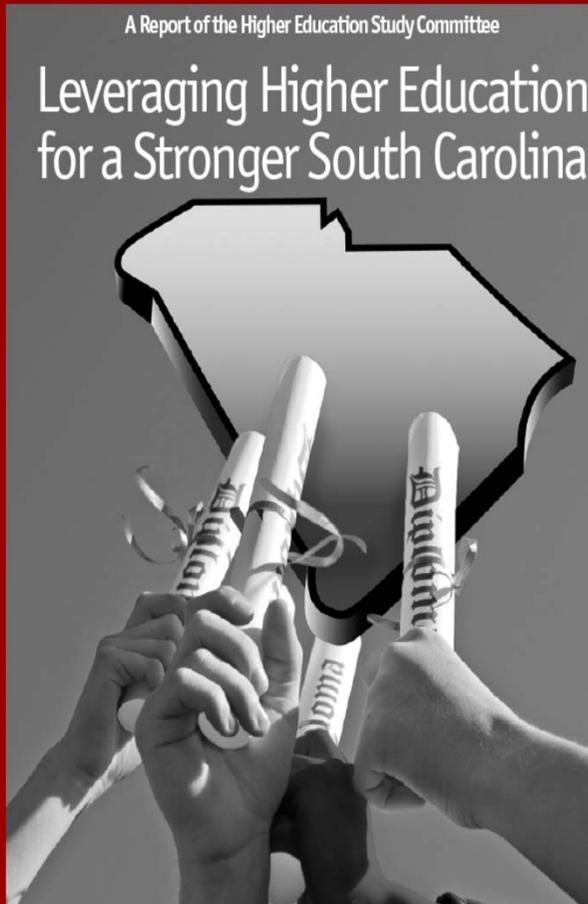


**The current low state funding level is a threat to S.C. students' access to that quality. Please help end that threat, so SC can continue to develop the next generation of citizen-professionals who will be ready to lead when their time comes.**



**Meet the Kolb kids from Beaufort, SC: Mabrey, 11; Carter, 9; Clara, 7 -- and brother Tillman, 3. Mom Shelley is a Winthrop alumna; Dad Jeff is a Clemson grad. Both campuses have a 'Tillman' – and now, so do the Kolbs! Shelley and Jeff introduced their children to both campuses this summer.**

## An important means...



... to an essential end

**Thank you for your gracious welcome to a newcomer,  
and for your service  
to the State of South Carolina**