



6-2013

Education By Design

President Emeritus

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/presidentemeritus_accomplishments

Recommended Citation

President Emeritus, "Education By Design" (2013). *Accomplishments*. 10.
https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/presidentemeritus_accomplishments/10

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the President Emeritus at Digital Commons @ Winthrop University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Accomplishments by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Winthrop University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@mailbox.winthrop.edu.

WINTHROP

UNIVERSITY

Education By Design



A RETROSPECTIVE ON EDUCATION BY DESIGN

A key part of Winthrop University's never-ending commitment to enhancing the quality and value of the Winthrop Experience for every student is how academic planning, facilities planning and even the organizational structure of Winthrop administration are intertwined in a very purposeful way.

At Winthrop, form follows function, so that administrators, faculty and staff work as efficiently and effectively as possible to achieve each new milestone, and campus planning and design contribute to the distinctive Winthrop Experience.

As a highly residential campus of exceptional beauty, Winthrop's strategic planning process emphasizes creating environments for both intentional and casual interactions by members of the campus community. Contemporary facilities with a traditional feel are connected by a pedestrian friendly atmosphere that is conducive to students engaging in the full range of opportunities created to help them develop the capacities to live, learn and lead for a lifetime.

At Winthrop, we call this 'education by design,' and consider it a key part of why the Winthrop Experience has become nationally acclaimed.

HEART OF CAMPUS

During the first few years of the 21st century, Winthrop University created a new "heart of campus" to serve the Winthrop community for decades to come, as well as contribute to the redevelopment of our surrounding city's urban core.

The buildings that have taken shape as part of the heart of campus collectively can be considered our learning community's crossroads — the places everyone frequents on virtually a daily basis... places where conversations that begin in classrooms continue in informal settings... places where new friends are made and old friends gather, both spontaneously as well as intentionally... places of study, reflection and lively interaction.



LOIS RHAME WEST HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND WELLNESS CENTER

The Lois Rhame West Health, Physical Education, and Wellness Center opened in 2007. At 137,000 square feet, the \$27 million West Center is the largest building on Winthrop's main campus. The signature facility, utilizing the latest in environmentally friendly construction techniques, houses academic space for Winthrop's health, physical education and sport management programs, as well as wellness facilities for the campus community.



Classroom



Peabody Gymnasium



Swimming Pool



Weight Room



ANTHONY J. AND GALE N. DIGIORGIO CAMPUS CENTER

The 128,000-square-foot DiGiorgio Campus Center brings the heart of the Winthrop University campus to Scholars Walk. Construction began in 2008, and the center opened in 2010.

Within its walls are an array of facilities where members of Winthrop's myriad student organizations hone their leadership skills, as well as amenities that beckon the entire campus community to gather, relax, and learn more about each other and the world around them. In addition, Student Life staff offices also are located in the DiGiorgio Center to provide convenient points of service to students, along with the campus Post Office, and Winthrop Bookstore.

Highlight amenities include Dina's Place theatre, multi-vendor food court, Richardson Ballroom for large functions, Starbucks coffee shop, and much more. The DiGiorgio Center is connected to the Lois Rhame West Health, Physical Education and Wellness Center by a distinctive open-air plaza and gathering place known as the Community Concourse. The Concourse allows the facilities to function in tandem. To the north, a Campus Green with walkways and open grassy areas for study or play disguises an environmentally engineered surface-water drainage system for the heart of campus.

The DiGiorgio Center was named by the Winthrop Board of Trustees to honor longtime President Anthony DiGiorgio and First Lady Gale DiGiorgio, in recognition of dedicated service to the campus, the greater community, and the state of South Carolina. The couple served Winthrop for more than 20 years and now share an emeritus office in the building that bears their names.



GLENDA PITTMAN AND CHARLES JERRY OWENS HALL

Glenda Pittman and Charles Jerry Owens Hall, Winthrop's newest general-use classroom facility, is a 32,200 square-foot building that stays true to Winthrop's devotion to close interaction between students and faculty. Adding to the variety of academic spaces at Winthrop, Owens Hall offers two spaces accommodating up to 100 students to allow certain classes to meet concurrently for special events, in addition to 16 smaller classrooms targeted to Winthrop's growing student body. A computer lab, two conference rooms and a student lounge round out the \$5 million facility, with all classrooms equipped with 'smart' technology. Owens Hall was damaged by a March 6, 2010, fire and reopened in spring 2011.



SCHOLARS WALK AND THE HARDIN FAMILY GARDEN

Winthrop's pedestrian-oriented campus encourages walking and biking in general, with its serpentine streets, brick crosswalks and infusion of special places — some built to encourage casual interactions, others for individual quiet reflection.

As a homage to the British tradition admired by Winthrop's founder, David Bancroft Johnson, the central promenade of the Winthrop campus is now known as Scholars Walk. Symbolically, Scholars Walk connects Winthrop's humble beginnings — the Little Chapel where Johnson and his wife are entombed — to its future: a vibrant new heart of campus where major facilities are joined by special green spaces. Scholars Walk's creation was incremental, advanced as each new heart of campus facility was created — in much the way scholars advance toward their degrees with each successive academic experience.

The culminating destination of Scholars Walk is the Hardin Family Garden, completed in spring 2011, and made possible with the support of a generous and multi-faceted gift to Winthrop from the late alumna Patricia "Patz" Carter and her husband, Ray. In addition to providing scholarships and faculty support for Winthrop's Department of Design, the Carters' gift designated that the garden be named for the Hardin Family, which traces its Rock Hill roots back several decades, and includes several members of the extended Winthrop University family.

The Hardin Family Garden was designed to celebrate the "Golden Section," a principle drawn from and reflected in nature, with teaching and learning applications in art and design, math, science, architecture, and many other disciplines. The principle, also called "the Golden Mean" or the "Divine Proportion," can be seen in the pyramids of Egypt, Notre Dame Cathedral, as well as the proportionality of the human body, most flowers, and many other living things. That facet of the design makes the garden a place for teaching and learning in a variety of disciplines, as well as a place that inspires quiet conversation, individual reflection and dedication for excellence — all part of life in the Winthrop community of learners.



VIVIAN M. CARROLL HALL

Lobby



Whitton Auditorium



Minerd Executive Seminar Room



Winthrop University encourages student interactions with the business community from throughout the greater Charlotte region. Carroll Hall, Winthrop's newest academic facility, hosts such gatherings, as well as offering new learning environments for students in Winthrop's College of Business Administration.

Vivian M. Carroll Hall, adjacent to the Thurmond Building, features the Carroll Capital Markets Training and Trading Center, a facility dedicated to producing future business leaders who have a 21st century blend of strong fundamentals in wealth management, highly specialized technical trading skills and a global perspective on ever-changing world financial markets. In addition to a trading room with 20-24 computers, a 12-foot electronic stock market ticker board, television monitors and conference room with 'smart' technology capabilities, Carroll Hall features the following: a 195-seat auditorium, two television monitors and adjoining conference room with smart capabilities; two instructional computer classrooms computer science lab; and collaborative team learning rooms for four to eight students working in groups.

Carroll Hall is augmented by a reception area in the adjacent Macfeat House.



Computer Lab



Carroll Capital Markets Training and Trading Center



Suzanne Kirsh Community Service Student Lounge



CONSTANT CONVERSATION

The words inscribed in the center of this grouping of benches were infused into the fabric of the University by Winthrop's ninth president, Anthony J. DiGiorgio. They came from *A Free and Ordered Space* by A. Bartlett Giamatti, the 20th century Renaissance man who was at various times president of Yale University, as well as commissioner of major league baseball. Incorporated into Winthrop's Convocation as well as undergraduate commencement, the expanded quote remains an appropriate reminder of the vital role spirited, respectful discourse plays on college and university campuses.



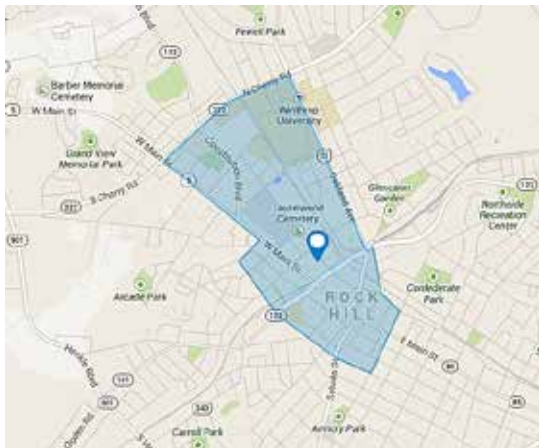
PROPOSED LIBRARY

Yet another addition to the new heart of campus will be a new library that is destined to become yet another signature building for the main campus, reflecting the true relationship of a university library to the learning community it serves. The \$50 million facility will include both traditional contemporary collections and historic archives, as well as coordinating access to a global array of up-to-the-minute online information resources. The timeframe for construction is dependent upon capital investment support from the State of South Carolina.



KNOWLEDGE PARK

In 2012-2013, the Knowledge Park concept was developed as 22 public and private leaders convened by then-President DiGiorgio and the City of Rock Hill joined together to introduce a new redevelopment and jobs plan for the urban core of Rock Hill. The Knowledge Park area stretches from Winthrop University through what was Rock Hill's Textile Corridor, and into downtown – a zone that already hosts a concentration of knowledge economy businesses and related job nodes. The attraction and growth of knowledge economy businesses and employment is envisioned through specific economic development strategies, including a streetcar system connecting the Winthrop campus and the rest of the job nodes, an advanced telecommunications/ electric infrastructure, and targeted incentives. As both President Emeritus and a resident of Rock Hill, Dr. DiGiorgio remains strongly supportive of the Knowledge Park initiative, and considers work on this on-going progressive economic development initiative an important part of his presidential legacy.





Rock Hill, South Carolina 29733

June 2013