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Dacus Library Launches New Online Research Hub

Winthrop University

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Quick Facts

- Winthrop's entrance into the Digital Commons world will be a "great way to promote the institution," said DeAnn Brame, digital services/systems librarian.
- The content is divided into collections, disciplines and authors. Visitors to the site can also search for specific works, view the most downloaded works, see recent additions and catch up with the 'Paper of the Day' feature.

ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA — The Ida Jane Dacus Library at Winthrop University has launched **Digital Commons @ Winthrop,** a new online hub showcasing the "vast scholarship" of faculty and students.

Digital Commons @ Winthrop, an institutional repository that provides open access to information, is something library staff have wanted to do for quite a while, said **DeAnn Brame**, digital services/systems librarian. She noted other schools across the nation have embraced similar models.

Winthrop's entrance into the Digital Commons world will be a "great way to promote the institution," she said. She added that faculty and staff seem excited about the project.

The Commons site, digitalcommons.winthrop.edu, will host everything from research articles to past issues of the Honors Program's newsletter The Sage Page, student publications to conference proceedings. Digital Commons @ Winthrop will provide world wide access to materials that would otherwise have limited accessibility like materials from the Louise Pettus Archives. Ideally, Brame said, each of the university's five colleges and other on-campus organizations will contribute to Digital Commons @ Winthrop.

Eventually, she hopes faculty and staff will feel encouraged to post their research onto the Commons.

"It will give the Winthrop community more control over what and how they share information," Brame said. "We're in a digital age. People want things online and to be able to access information online and get results faster."

Brame has been at work over the past several weeks uploading content to the page, everything from an 1899 volume of The Tatler, Winthrop's yearbook, to research about copper bonding hermodynamics to a column on why the Internet will never replace libraries.

"This is Winthrop's first vehicle for entrance into open access," said Dean Mark Herring. "Open access will be one of the ways that libraries generate their own scholarly communications. Additionally, open access, while showcasing the university's scholars and the breadth and depth of Winthrop's scholarly communications, will also help reduce costs for libraries to access similar material."

Herring went on to say that this is a monumental step for Winthrop, a great addition to intellectual content, and one more way that the university contributes to the community, the state, and ultimately the world.

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the Day' feature.

For more information on the Digital Commons and how you can contribute, call Brame at 803/323-2195 or digitalcommons@winthrop.edu.

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