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Jeff Perez Will Join Winthrop as Senior Counsel to the President for Public Affairs

Winthrop University

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Jeff Perez Will Join Winthrop as Senior Counsel to the President for Public Affairs

Quick Facts

- Perez, vice president for external affairs at The Citadel, was chosen as Winthrop's public affairs strategist and communications adviser to the president as well as the president's advisory council.
- He will be the principal institutional spokesperson on matters involving public policy and will lead Winthrop's work with local, state and federal officials.



Jeffrey Perez

ROCK HILL, S.C. – *Winthrop President Jayne Marie (Jamie) Comstock* announced this week that **Dr. Jeffrey Perez** will serve as her senior counsel for public affairs, beginning Feb. 1.

Perez, vice president for external affairs at **The Citadel**, was chosen as Winthrop's **public affairs strategist** and **communications adviser to the president** as well as the president's advisory council. He will be the principal institutional spokesperson on matters involving public policy and will lead Winthrop's work with local, state and federal officials.

"Jeff Perez brings the right combination of effective communications and policy experience at public institutions and in service to the public good. He will hit the ground running on our behalf in Columbia and beyond, and his communications expertise will be invaluable as we put Winthrop on the rise," Comstock said.

During his five years at The Citadel, Perez served as chief spokesman and developed the marketing and communications strategies that supported record enrollments and the highest annual giving in the military college's history.

"It is my honor to have the opportunity of serving Winthrop University and President Comstock," said Perez. "I am dedicated to helping Winthrop build upon its many strengths as it grows to meet the needs of our students, the Rock Hill region and South Carolina."

Perez previously worked at **Shawnee State University** in Ohio for three years as executive director of communications and government affairs, where he oversaw media and community relations and coordinated the university's government relations.

In his native New York state, Perez was employed in several communication, government policy or public service jobs. He was the director of public affairs for the **Charter Schools Institute of the State University of New York**; director of communication services at the headquarters of the **State University of New York**, the largest college system in the country with 64 campuses and 400,000 students; and the director of research and a government relations representative for the **New York State School Boards Association**.

Perez earned a Bachelor of Science degree in foreign service from **Georgetown University**, a master's degree from **Binghamton University** in New York, and a Ph.D. in American history from the **College of William and Mary**. He also attended **Harvard University's Institute for Educational Management** in 2013.

For more information, contact **Judy Longshaw**, news and media services manager, at 803/323-2404 or e-mail her at longshawj@winthrop.edu.

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