Inclusiveness at Work: THINK College Partners with Macfeat Laboratory School

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Call for Proposals:  
*2'd Annual Inclusion Across the Lifespan Conference*

**Date of Conference:** November 21, 2015  
**Time:** 8:00am-12:00pm  
**Location:** Winthrop University in Rock Hill, SC  
**Cost:** $50 (registration fee waived for accepted presenters)

**Overview:** This 2nd annual regional inclusion conference of the Carolinas is intended to bring together professionals and families who are passionate about promoting inclusive practices for individuals with disabilities across home, school, and community settings. There will be sessions related to early childhood, K-12 education, post-secondary education, and transition to independent living. All conference registration proceeds will benefit the scholarship fund for the Winthrop Think College (WTC) program, a fully inclusive post-secondary education program for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

**Proposal Submission:** All sessions will be 50 minutes. Proposals are due no later than September 15, 2015. Email proposals to Deb Leach at leachd@winthrop.edu using the attached form. The conference committee will review proposals, and presenters will be notified by September 30, 2015.
1. Strand (check all that apply):
   X Early childhood (birth to five)
   D Elementary
   D Middle School
   D High School
   X Post-secondary Education and Training
   D Employment
   D Independent Living and Community Engagement
   D Parenting

2. Presenter Information (complete for all presenters)
   Name: Erin Hamel
   Email address: hamele@winthrop.edu
   School District, Agency, or University Affiliation (if applicable):
   Winthrop University
   Title/Position (if applicable): Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education and Director of Macfeat Laboratory School

   Name: Liz McNelly
   Email address: mcnellym@winthrop.edu
   School District, Agency, or University Affiliation (if applicable):
   Winthrop University
   Title/Position (if applicable): Lead Teacher, preschool classroom

   Name:
   Email address:
   School District, Agency, or University Affiliation (if applicable):
   Title/Position (if applicable):

3. Title of Presentation: Inclusiveness at Work: THINK College Partners with Macfeat Laboratory School

4. Presentation Description (no more than 250 words):

   This presentation describes the partnership that exists between Winthrop’s Macfeat Laboratory School and THINK College. Winthrop University’s THINK College Program aims to “provide an inclusive post-secondary education experience to students with intellectual disabilities to prepare them for
competitive employment and active participation in local communities with as much independence as possible” ([http://www.winthrop.edu/thinkcollege/](). Since 1895, Macfeat Laboratory School has served Winthrop University and the community as a research, demonstration and training center for best practices in early childhood education. Macfeat has two preschool classes for three and four year olds and one multi-age kindergarten class. The school provides a unique learning environment for both children and Winthrop students, including Winthrop’s THINK College students. This semester, two THINK College students are interning in a Macfeat preschool classroom. The presenters will offer a brief description of both THINK College and Macfeat Laboratory school and will describe the positive outcomes from THINK College interns working in a Macfeat preschool classroom. Personal anecdotes, photos and videoclips will be used to describe the experience.

5. List 3-5 Learning Objectives for Participants:
   a. Participants will be able to describe basic tenets of Macfeat Laboratory school’s philosophy of education.
   b. Participants will be able to identify possible learning outcomes for THINK College students interning at Macfeat.
   c. Participants will be able to identify possible learning outcomes for Macfeat students as they interact with THINK College students.