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# TEA Fellows Set to Arrive on Jan. 29 From Around the World

## Quick Facts

- The international teachers will arrive Jan. 29 and will depart March 14.
- Education faculty member A.J. Angulo authored the \$190,000 grant proposal to renew the federally-funded cultural and educational exchange program for the fifth year.



A.J. Angulo

ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA – For the fifth consecutive year, Winthrop University will bring high school teachers from around the world to stay on campus for an intensive six-week program to sharpen their teaching skills.

Called the [U.S. State Department's Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program \(TEA\)](#), the initiative will bring 20 fellows to Winthrop this semester from Asia, the Middle East, Eastern Europe, Africa, and Central and South America.

Education faculty member A.J. Angulo authored the \$190,000 grant proposal to renew the federally-funded cultural and educational exchange program for the fifth year. The funds will support a series of professional development workshops, field experiences in Rock Hill high schools, and cultural exchange activities on and off campus.

"Year after year, this program brings the world to Winthrop and our Rock Hill schools," said Angulo. "The enthusiasm and excitement these teachers bring with them energizes all of us who get to work with them. While here, they get professional development and field experiences. But before these teachers return home, they leave us with new perspectives on the world, on teaching and on what it means to be part of the global community. Our students, faculty, staff, friendship families and local economy all benefit from this terrific program."

**International exchange programs** like TEA are designed to meet goals that extend well beyond the classroom. "In this election cycle," Angulo said, "there's been much talk about the problems and challenges that exist around the world. What we need, however, is less talk and more constructive action on the world stage. The TEA program, as we've seen for the last several years, is action-oriented and responds to this need. It reminds us of the importance of developing strong, positive and lasting international relationships."

The teachers will arrive Jan. 29 and will depart March 14. During their stay, the teachers will take customized workshops from faculty in the [Richard W. Riley College of Education](#) and the [College of Arts and Sciences](#). Eleven of the teachers will learn about science, technology and math, and the remaining nine will study English as a second language. Seminars also have been added to their schedule to enhance their understanding of the region.

While on campus, the international visitors will share information about their culture during two events open to the public:

- \* **Poster Session**, Feb. 16, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m., [Withers/W.T.S. Building](#), Student Activity Center
- \* **Comparative Education Panel Session**, March 1, 7-9 p.m., Withers/W.T.S. Building, Plowden Auditorium

Each international teacher will also be paired with a Rock Hill high school teacher for all-day, field-based experiences in order to exchange best teaching practices. When not in classes at Winthrop or

local high schools, the international teachers will participate in cultural exchange activities.

They will learn about American life and culture through day and weekend excursions, including trips to such sites as the Levine Museum of the New South and Charlotte's Discovery Place, and weekend excursions to Charleston, South Carolina and Asheville, North Carolina.

The **U.S. State Department's Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program** is administered by IREX and will complement **Winthrop's Global Learning Initiative** and **federally-funded WISE/STEM programs**.

For more information, contact **Judy Longshaw**, news and media services manager, at 803/323-2404 or at [longshawj@winthrop.edu](mailto:longshawj@winthrop.edu).

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