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Closing the Wage Gap Is Topic of Department of Social Work Lecture

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Women earn 78 cents for every \$1 that a man makes over a lifetime.

The April 2 event is sponsored by the Department of Social Work and American Association of University Women.

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Did you realize that for the majority of women, they will earn only 78 cents for every \$1 that a man earns over a lifetime? That is a gap that has changed less than a half cent per year since the Equal Pay Act was passed by Congress in 1963.

The Department of Social Work and the Rock Hill Branch of the American Association of University Women will present a program entitled "Pay Equity: Closing the Wage Gap" on Thursday, April 2, at 7 p.m. in Room 215, Sims Science Building, Winthrop University.

The program will feature **Michelle (Mike) Leber**, chair of the National Committee on Pay Equity (NCPE). The committee, founded in 1979, is a coalition of women's and civil rights organizations; labor unions; religious, professional, legal, and educational associations, commissions on women, state and local pay equity coalitions and individuals working to eliminate sex- and race-based wage discrimination and to achieve pay equity.

NCPE's purpose is to close the wage gap that still exists between women, as well as people of color, and men. By 2007, women earned 78 cents to men's dollar. Over a working lifetime, this wage disparity costs the average American woman and her family an estimated \$700,000 to \$2 million, impacting Social Security benefits and pensions.

Students will receive Cultural Event Credit to attend.

Questions about the program can be directed to Linda Ashley, Department of Social Work, at 803/323-2187 or Ann Terry at 803/789-6129.

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