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Winthrop University

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New English Department Chair Hired From East Carolina University

Quick Facts

- Hecimovich was selected because of his exceptional administrative experience, his teaching and scholarly excellence and his leadership skills.
- He will replace William Naufftus, who served as acting chair for the past two years.



Gregg Hecimovich

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Winthrop University's Department of English will greet a new chair in August when **Gregg Hecimovich**, an associate dean and associate professor of English at East Carolina University in North Carolina, arrives.

He will replace **William Naufftus**, who served as acting chair for the past two years.

Debra Boyd, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said Hecimovich was selected because of his exceptional administrative experience, his teaching and scholarly excellence, and his leadership skills. "Dr. Hecimovich brings a wealth of experience and talent to his new role as English Department chair, and I am confident that he will lead this already strong department to even greater levels of achievement. His strong focus on student learning and development and his record of successful strategic leadership make him an excellent addition to the department and the institution."

He will oversee a department of 19 full-time and 10 part-time faculty as well as 175 undergraduate majors and 20 graduate students. The **Department of English** has a well-deserved reputation for teaching excellence and is an integral part of the Touchstone Core (General Education), having developed the Critical Reading, Thinking, and Writing course in the core. Faculty members have won awards not only for teaching excellence, but also for their scholarship and professional service.

Hecimovich teaches courses in and writes about Victorian and Romantic literature, the novel as literary form, American slave narratives, literary theory, and technology and the humanities. He is the author of four books: Austen's "Emma" (Continuum 2009), "Puzzling the Reader: Riddles in Nineteenth-Century British Literature" (Peter Lang 2008), the Penguin Classics edition of Anthony Trollope's "Phineas Redux" (Penguin USA, Penguin UK 2003) and the forthcoming Thomas Hardy's "Tess of the D'Urbervilles" (Continuum 2010). His scholarly articles have appeared in such publications as ELH, Victorian Poetry, The Victorian Newsletter, The James Joyce Quarterly and The North Carolina Literary Review.

A recipient of the UNC Board of Governors Distinguished Professor for Teaching Award, **Hecimovich** also has been awarded the East Carolina University's Scholar-Teacher Award in the Humanities, the English Department's Bertie Fearing Excellence in Teaching Award, and ECU's Max Ray Joyner Award for excellence in online education. A faculty member at East Carolina University since 2002, he has been promoted to associate dean of the Harriot College of Arts and Sciences. He also taught at Seattle University, Eastern Illinois University, and Vanderbilt University.

Hecimovich's research has received funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the North Caroliniana Society, ECU's Division of Research and Graduate Studies, the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, and the ECU Faculty Senate.

He graduated cum laude with a BA degree in English and creative writing from the University of North

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