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ONCA Ceremony Recognizes Seven High-Achieving Students

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Winthrop’s Office of Nationally Competitive Awards (ONCA) honored seven students for their academic achievements on Saturday, April 25, during a ceremony in Plowden Auditorium.

The ceremony recognized Winthrop students who received or applied for nationally competitive scholarships, fellowships and grants.

Students who received awards, fellowships and scholarships include:

- **Bethany Marie Bush**, recipient of the Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship Award. A native of Doylestown, Pa., Bush is a biology/chemistry double major set to graduate in May 2009. The Columbia, S.C., resident plans to attend graduate school at Harvard University, where she will study biochemistry. The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi awards 60 fellowships of $5,000 each to members entering their first year of graduate or professional study. Bush also applied for the Marshall Scholarship, which provides financial support to allow high-achieving American students to study at the graduate level in the United Kingdom.

- **Lauren Elizabeth Cairco**, recipient of the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. Cairco, a graduating senior computer science major from Fort Mill, S.C., will enter a Ph.D. program in computer science this fall at Clemson University. The National Science Foundation offers fellowships to students in early stages of pursuing a research-based master’s or Ph.D. degree.

Applicants honored at Saturday’s ceremony were:

- **Christopher L. Bennett**, applicant for the Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship Award and applicant for the Rhodes Scholarship. Bennett, a graduating senior biology major from Chesterfield, S.C., will pursue a Ph.D. in biology this fall at Duke University. He is a leader in Winthrop’s chapter of the National Biology Honor Society.

- **K. Juree Capers**, applicant for the Jack Kent Cooke Graduate Fellowship. Capers graduated magna cum laude in December 2008 with degrees in political science and psychology. At present, she is completing a Congressional Black Caucus Emerging Leaders Internship in the office of Rep. James Clyburn (D-S.C.) in Washington, D.C. The Varnville, S.C., native hopes to become an education or race policy analyst or lobbyist. *Announcement of the Jack Kent Cooke Graduate Fellowship recipients is pending.*

- **Stephanie Nahima Glick**, applicant for the USA-Today All Academic Team. Glick, a senior art major from Northridge, Calif., works to create and facilitate programs that use art to help women and girls develop their own identities. She is the creator and director of Girlthreads, a program for middle-school girls, and My Life in Perspective, which combines guided meditation with collage to promote self-healing in cancer patients at Presbyterian Hospital’s Buddy Kemp Caring House. Glick will graduate in December 2009.
Amanda C. Landreth, applicant for the SunBelt Scholarship. A native of Greenville, S.C., Landreth is a graduating senior integrated marketing communications major who plans to pursue a graduate degree in international communications. She is active in the Association for Women in Communications and is the recipient of the Chevrolet Scholastic Achievement Award. Landreth helped form Winthrop's college chapter of Habitat for Humanity.

- **Sharettta M. Wynn**, alternate recipient of the Public Policy and International Fellowship Award. Wynn, a junior political science/sociology double major from Rock Hill, plans to seek a master’s degree in higher education and student affairs after she graduates in May 2010. The PPIA Fellowship Program prepares college juniors or seniors for graduate study in international affairs.

For more information, contact ONCA at 803/323-3906.