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SIFE Team Declared as 2012 Charlotte Regional Champions

ROCK HILL, S.C. - The Winthrop University Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team recently was announced as the 2012 Charlotte regional champions. This makes the eighth straight year that Winthrop’s team has taken first place at regionals.

Throughout the year, SIFE hosted numerous events to help local charities organizations including:

- collecting more than 1,500 cans of food during the annual food drive for charities and local soup kitchens;
- organizing Passing on Professionalism, a weeklong professional clothing drive in which Winthrop faculty donated more than 500 articles of gently used professional wear to residents of the Blackmon Road community. A Professionalism and Networking workshop also was held for Blackmon Road residents;
- providing financial literacy programming to college students;
- sponsoring and participating in a Student Professional Development Conference that attracted more than 500 students; and
- partnering with York County to host the Green Business Conference.

Patrice Burleson, assistant professor of management and the SIFE faculty advisor, praised the team’s members for their hard work and dedication. “SIFE enables students to develop communication, leadership and team-building skills that will benefit them long after they have graduated from Winthrop. It is so rewarding to send out young adults who are prepared for the work force,” said Burleson.

Team members are Deja Frederick, a senior integrated marketing communication major; Kayla Dugger, a junior digital information design major; Avin Jayawickrema, a senior business administration major; Christopher Aubrie, a junior international business major; Megan Rudnik, a senior international business major; Asia Stover, a senior accounting major; and Nathan Rodriguez, a senior marketing major.

The Winthrop SIFE team will now travel to Kansas City, Mo., for the national SIFE competition held May 22-24.

For more information, please visit the Winthrop SIFE website or contact Burleson at 803/323-4835 or e-mail burlesonp@winthrop.edu