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New International Center Director Begins in July

Winthrop University

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New International Center Director Begins in July

Quick Facts

- Lee "Woody" Pelton is the new International Center Director for Winthrop University.
- Pelton will begin his new position in mid-July.



Woody Pelton

ROCK HILL, S.C. - **Lee Heywood "Woody" Pelton**, who works as special assistant to the president for international programs at Saginaw Valley State University in Michigan, will become the new **International Center** Director for Winthrop University.

Pelton will lead the center's focus on increasing opportunities for Winthrop students to have international experiences preparing them to be more successful professionals and citizens in a global economy. He has worked in his current job since 1992 to recruit, admit and advise international students, to expand study abroad exchanges and to encourage international development opportunities for faculty. He will perform similar duties when he begins his new job at the Rock Hill campus in mid-July. **Pelton** also will teach and oversee an international studies minor program.

"We are all delighted to attract someone of Woody's experience and personal caliber to lead our internationalization initiatives," said Brien Lewis, dean of University College. "The nationwide search yielded an outstanding group of candidates. Woody will bring with him a wealth of knowledge and a passion for bringing the world to Winthrop and Winthrop to the world."

In his previous job, **Pelton** increased the number of international students from fewer than 50 to more than 300. He has developed a network of contacts at U.S. embassies and higher education institutions around the world, particularly in India, the Middle East and East Asia.

For eight years, **Pelton** worked as an attorney specializing in international trade and immigration law with two different firms in Washington D.C. He gained experience in dealing with the laws and regulations needed to draft agreements with other institutions and in grant writing. He has also worked with the U.N. High Commission for Refugees in Malaysia and as a Peace Corps volunteer in Morocco.

Pelton earned a law degree from George Washington University's National Law Center and a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in student personnel services in higher education, both from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

For more information, contact Lewis at 803/323-3900.

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