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## Committee Selects Common Book for 2010 and 2011

Winthrop University

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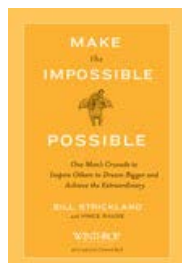
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# Committee Selects Common Book for 2010 and 2011

## Quick Facts

- For the first time, Winthrop will utilize the same common book for two consecutive years to maximize the educational impact.
- Strickland, a social entrepreneur, builds community connections to solve complex problems.



*Customized book cover*

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Incoming freshmen for the next two years will read "**Make the Impossible Possible**" by **Bill Strickland** as Winthrop's seventh common book.

For the first time, Winthrop will utilize the same common book for two consecutive years to maximize the educational impact.

**Strickland**, a social entrepreneur, builds community connections to solve complex problems. Having succeeded as an educator and founder of a jobs training center, businessperson who was invited to lecture at Harvard Business School, artist and member of the Board of the National Endowment for the Arts, **Strickland** provides a candid glimpse into his own life and humble guidance for those seeking excellence in their own lives.

Simultaneously inspiring and pragmatic, Strickland's message is finding resonance throughout the Winthrop learning community. "Some of our student leaders have already started discussing material from the book as they prepare to greet new students this summer," said University College Dean **Gloria Jones**. "Their enthusiasm for Strickland's message is palpable."

Plans are under way for related programming in each college, as well as plans for the author to visit in October.

After the customized book cover and distribution plan significantly expanded readership of last year's common book, a similar design and plan will be followed this year.

The **Common Book Project** works to integrate Winthrop students into the university environment and acquaint them with Winthrop's strongly held intellectual and academic values. New students receive the book at Orientation and read the book over the summer. Themes from the book are explored during the freshman course, ACAD 101 and some other courses. Program components are also developed for graduate students, alumni and Rock Hill community members.

For more information, contact Jones at 803/323-3900 or [jonesg@winthrop.edu](mailto:jonesg@winthrop.edu).

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