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Winthrop University

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Board Extends President's Contract Through 2015

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Winthrop University's Board of Trustees voted unanimously June 5 to extend President Anthony DiGiorgio's contract to 2015 and to give him an outstanding evaluation. The resolution adds an additional year to DiGiorgio's current rolling contract, which would have expired June 30, 2014.

Board Chair Kathy Bigham noted that individual board members' evaluations recognized DiGiorgio's outstanding leadership during a very difficult economic year for the country and the state. They praised his foresight in planning as cutbacks over several months meant a total loss of more than $5 million in state funding.

"As we celebrate the 20th anniversary of DiGiorgio's presidency at Winthrop, we're fortunate to have his experience and leadership during these challenging economic times," said Bigham.

At the quarterly board meeting, board members voted unanimously to give DiGiorgio the highest available rating of "exceeds expectations" during his formal evaluation. The Winthrop board does not set the compensation level for the president. Instead, the board's recommendation goes to the State Agency Head Salary Commission, which may forward a salary increase recommendation to the State Budget and Control Board.

All agency heads in South Carolina, including DiGiorgio, have not received a salary increase since January 2007.

DiGiorgio will begin his 21st year at Winthrop in July. He is the longest-serving public university president in South Carolina.