

Winthrop Community Hunger Action Awareness Initiatives

Beginning in the mid 1970s Winthrop's faculty, students, campus ministries and community leaders chose multiple avenues to educate and act on food scarcity in both York County, South Carolina and internationally. Campus fasts, hunger walks and races, letter writing campaigns to influence domestic and federal legislation funding for food assistance, sleep-ins for the homeless, teaching undergraduate courses on food scarcity, and offering students international travel experiences to participate in development projects addressing food needs raised hunger awareness on Winthrop's campus for over forty years. This panel will include Ms. Frances (Weenie) Daniel former associate regional director for the Carolinas Region of Church World Service/CROP, Ms. Laura Foster current Program Director of Volunteer and Community Service for Winthrop University, Ms. Mary Gill Kennington Winthrop graduate who chaired the student organization Action for Food in the 1980s, and Rev. Randy McSpadden former Presbyterian campus minister at Winthrop.

This panel will explore:

- . the history of hunger action initiatives**
- . the collaborations for this common goal across denominations and between "town and gown."**
- . the interdisciplinary efforts at Winthrop to educate undergraduates on domestic and international hunger, the root causes and potential solutions**

These efforts helped move individuals and families out of poverty while raising awareness for coming generations to continue the fight against hunger.