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## Chemistry Professor Elected to Serve on ASBMB Council

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Winthrop University, "Chemistry Professor Elected to Serve on ASBMB Council" (2017). *Winthrop News* 2017. 107.

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ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA – Winthrop University Chemistry Professor Takita Felder Sumter recently was elected to serve on the council for the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB).

The council is the society's governing body that includes the society's president, pastpresident, treasurer, secretary and nine councilors. Of the nine councilors, six are elected by society members.

Sumter was one of the two councilors elected this year by the membership. Her threeyear term begins July 1.

The society is a nonprofit scientific and educational organization with more than 12,000 members worldwide. Most members are faculty who teach and conduct research at colleges and universities or researchers in various government laboratories, at nonprofit research institutions and in industry.

Sumter was selected earlier this year as **Winthrop's first Provost's Faculty Fellow** in order to gain administrative experience and to provide a faculty perspective to institutional leadership discussions. Sumter also mentors Winthrop students to conduct research on high-mobility group A (HMGA) proteins in cancer signaling. After previous service as chair of ASBMB's Minority Affairs Committee, Sumter is currently co-leading the society's Interactive Mentoring Activities for Grantsmanship Enhancement (IMAGE) program, a \$500,000 National Science Foundation-funded initiative to mentor early-career faculty across the country.

A native of Columbia, South Carolina, Sumter received her Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of South Carolina and completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine prior to joining the faculty at Winthrop in 2004.

For more information, contact **Judy Longshaw**, news and media services manager, at longshawj@winthrop.edu or at 803/323-2404.

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