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NEW Leadership Conference at Winthrop Prepares Future Female Leaders

Winthrop University

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NEW Leadership Conference at Winthrop Prepares Future Female Leaders

Quick Facts

- In order to prepare the next generation of female leaders for South Carolina, Winthrop University's West Forum has joined with the College of Charleston to organize a NEW Leadership conference at Winthrop on May 19-22.
- The purpose of NEW Leadership South Carolina is to educate college women about the political process and to inspire them to consider careers in public service. The institute will host 15 women college students from across the state.



Karen Kedrowski

ROCK HILL, S.C. – South Carolina may have its first female governor but the Palmetto State lags behind in the nation in electing women to office in its legislative branch.

There is only one woman in the S.C. Senate and only 21 of 124 members in the S.C. House are women. South Carolina ranks 49th in the percentage of women in elective office, and women are underrepresented on public boards and commissions.



Katarina Moyon

In order to prepare the next generation of female leaders for South Carolina, Winthrop University's **West Forum** has joined with the College of Charleston to organize a **NEW Leadership conference** at Winthrop on May 19-22. May 21 will be spent in Columbia meeting with state officials.

The purpose of **NEW Leadership South Carolina** is to educate college women about the political process and to inspire them to consider careers in public service. The institute will host 15 women college students from across the state.

Co-directors **Karen Kedrowski**, chair of the Winthrop Department of Political Science, and **Katarina Moyon**, political science instructor, said the participants will learn how to become more civically engaged in South Carolina politics and learn skills for becoming a civic leader. Applicants from six South Carolina universities will learn about leadership, economics and the political process in a program modeled after one initiated at **Rutgers University**.

The inaugural class is diverse in race and age, varying from students in their teens to middle-age women. The students are from **Coastal Carolina, USC Aiken, Greenville Technical College, Winthrop, College of Charleston** and **Francis Marion University**.

Other organizers are **Lynne Ford**, College of Charleston associate provost for curriculum and academic administration; and **Holley Tankersley** and **Beth Stedman**, both of Coastal Carolina University.

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