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Administrative Changes for TLC Center and Department of English

Winthrop University

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Administrative Changes for TLC Center and Department of English

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Quick Facts

- Marge Tebo-Messina will spend three-quarters of her time in the TLC job and will continue to teach a course a semester.
- With Tebo-Messina no longer co-chairing the Department of English, Gloria Jones, the other co-chair, will take over leadership of the department.



Gloria Jones

ROCK HILL, S.C. - The services of the **Teaching and Learning Center** at Winthrop University have grown so much that its part-time director will give up serving as co-chair of the **Department of English**.

Marge Tebo-Messina will spend three-quarters of her time in the TLC job and will continue to teach a course a semester. She has received an appointment for three additional years in the TLC job. "Not only have the center's programs grown in number and complexity, but so too have the requests for more programs," Tebo-Messina said.

The **center provides programs and services that encourage and facilitate the professional and personal development** of Winthrop's personnel from the time they arrive on campus. It uses internal input and expertise so every Winthrop employee has the opportunity to participate in its programs as a teacher and a learner.

Among its most successful programs this year are monthly sessions on various topics and the **Winthrop Invests in Lifelong Learning (WILL) program**, where faculty and staff tutor those whose skills need boosting. Over the next two years, the center aims to create professional and personal development programs for campus leadership, continue to mentor faculty members, expand its website and publish brochures about its offerings.

With **Tebo-Messina** no longer co-chairing the **Department of English**, **Gloria Jones**, the other co-chair, will take over leadership of the department. The two served as co-chairs for the past two years. The **Department of English**, which is one of the largest academic departments at the Rock Hill campus, has 18 tenure-track faculty positions; five full-time, temporary instructors; and about 15 part-time faculty.

Jones said she is delighted and deeply honored to be given the opportunity to continue to work with the talented and dedicated faculty in the English Department.

"This department has assumed significant responsibility for implementing the new General Education program by teaching GNED 102; planning and bringing to the students a new course, CRTW 201; and reconfiguring WRIT 101 to insure that our students are better prepared for the writing they will do throughout their college careers," she said. "They have accomplished these innovations while still maintaining the highest standards in courses for our majors. While we still have challenging work ahead, I have no doubt that this faculty will, as it has in the past, work together to take a leadership role in serving the university and its students."

Jones was a part-time lecturer before joining the Winthrop faculty full-time in 1986. In addition to teaching courses on literary theory and Southern authors as an associate professor, she served as the department's director of composition for eight years before becoming chair.

Administrators and faculty members selected Jones as the **Margaret M. Bryant Professor** in 2002, and she will hold that prestigious title for another year. Known for strong teaching skills, she has won

the **Kinard Award for Excellence in Teaching** in 2002, was given the **Faculty Student Life Award** in 1999, and selected as the Outstanding Member of the Winthrop community from the former Student Government Association. She also has been selected many times as a mentor by **Phi Kappa Phi** inductees.

Jones earned her B.A. and Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro and her M.A. in English from Winthrop.

Tebo-Messina, a nationally recognized expert on assessment, has given numerous invited key-note addresses, workshops and presentations on General Education. She served on a team project to revamp **Winthrop's General Education curriculum**, has published a book chapter about assessing General Education, and has worked on a federally funded research project to determine what if any effect the state's accountability legislation had on student learning. She also served as a publication reviewer for the American Association for Higher Education, as a consultant on critical thinking tests for Riverside Publishing, and as executive director of the S.C. Higher Education Assessment Network for five years.

A faculty member since 1987, she has been a four-time nominee for the **Phi Kappa Phi Teaching Excellence Award**. She has three times been named a "model educator" by the College of Education, spent a year at Shanghai International Studies University as an exchange professor, and been recognized by the S.C. Commission on Higher Education for dedicated service to higher education.

Tebo-Messina received her A.A. in humanities and social sciences from Schenectady County Community College and a B.A. in English, M.A. in literature, and Doctor of Arts in English from the State University of New York at Albany.

[\[Back to Previous Page\]](#)

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Arts	Directory	Family Programs	Majors & More	Residence Life	Wingspan