



Summer 6-19-2015

Board Approves New Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership

Winthrop University

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Board Approves New Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership

Quick Facts

- Trustees approved a new education degree to train superintendents at the June 19 board meeting.
- If approved in the 2015-16 academic year by the three groups that oversee that discipline, the first students may start classes as early as next summer.



Jennie Rakestraw

ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA – Winthrop University's **Board of Trustees** approved a new education degree to train superintendents at its June 19 meeting.

The new **education specialist in educational leadership degree**, which still must be approved by the S.C. Commission on Higher Education, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and S.C. Department of Education, will provide training for those who want to become district-level administrators.

Winthrop already has provided training for more than 300 students in the **Master of Education in educational leadership program**, preparing them to be school principals, assistant principals and school district administrators, according to **Jennie Rakestraw**, dean of the **Richard W. Riley College of Education**.

"Our alumni have expressed an interest in pursuing a specialist degree to ready them for the next level of leadership," Rakestraw said.

The new program will develop school district leaders by emphasizing equal education for all students, ethical behavior, advanced communication skills and interpersonal relationships. If approved in the 2015-16 academic year by the three groups that oversee that discipline, the first students may start classes as early as next summer.

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

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