



Fall 9-13-2006

New Wingspan Unveiled This Week for Students

Winthrop University

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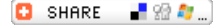
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Winthrop University, "New Wingspan Unveiled This Week for Students" (2006). *Winthrop News 2006*. 119.
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New Wingspan Unveiled This Week for Students

Quick Facts

- The new student portal, which became available Sept. 11, expands on information found in Wingspan.
- Visit <http://wingspan.winthrop.edu> to view the student portal.

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Winthrop University offers an improved communication tool on its website to help students keep track of grades, announcements, campus events and other important information.

Accessed through the Internet, the **student portal** expands on information found in **Wingspan**, Winthrop's current online student services system that provides academic, financial and personal information. Winthrop's **revised portal** will offer weather, a search feature to find students, faculty and staff members, news and athletic headlines, a GPA calculator, course offerings, registration procedures and cultural event credits, among other information. Using a single sign-on, students will be able to access a central gateway to create a site that can be customized based on their student profile.

"The student portal is a new way of accessing information that is currently available in different places on Winthrop's website. The portal gives students a way to access the information from one place," said **Kimberly Byrd**, web content coordinator for University Relations. She researched other university portals before recommending a model earlier this year that fits Winthrop's current needs.

Students were notified about the new portal, which became available on Sept. 11, through e-mails, posters, news articles and other means of communication.

Many colleges use portals as electronic community builders, whether for informing students of campus happenings or communicating time-sensitive information. The university's student portal will be unique for each student because it allows them to personalize their information, Byrd said.

To view the student portal, visit <http://wingspan.winthrop.edu>. Students may offer feedback regarding the new Wingspan via **Facebook**. Search for **Wingspan** within the Winthrop network to add comments to the portal wall.

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