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Board Approves 2.84 Percent Tuition Increase for In-state Students

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ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA – The Winthrop University Board of Trustees approved a **2.84** percent tuition increase for in-state students during a board meeting held Thursday, June 26. The percentage increase is the lowest in **15 years**.

Winthrop in-state undergraduate students will pay \$6,906 in the fall semester, \$191 more than in fall 2013.

"We face a balancing act – keep tuition costs as low as possible for our students and their families while maintaining the integrity of a Winthrop education," said **Vice President for Finance and Business J.P. McKee**. "This tuition increase, the lowest since 2000, demonstrates our commitment to affordability and quality."

The increase, which takes effect for the 2014-2015 academic year, **accounts for rising energy and personnel costs**, including the unfunded part of a state-directed 2 percent salary increase to all eligible Winthrop employees, as well as support for institutional initiatives. The increase is among the lowest announced by public colleges and universities in South Carolina.

Out-of-state students will pay \$13,369 -- \$369 more than a year ago, a 2.84 percent increase.

In-state graduate students will pay \$557 per credit hour, and out-of-state graduate students will pay \$1,071 per credit hour. These rates, for up to 12 hours of course work, also reflect an increase of 2.84 percent.

Students living on campus also would see a **4 percent increase in room and board fees**, which vary according to type of housing and meal plan chosen.

"Compared to other institutions, Winthrop's room and board rates and other fees are very competitive," McKee said. "We encourage prospective students and families to assess carefully the full cost of attending college."

Trustees did not approve a 2014-15 budget but will do so when fall enrollment figures are better known nearer to the first day of fall classes. "We are poised for enrollment growth for 2014-15 as a result of various recruitment and retention efforts across campus," McKee said. "Every dollar counts and the next two months will help us move beyond projections to a clearer financial picture."

More information on tuition and fees is available on the Cashier's Office website or by contacting **Judy Longshaw**, news and media services manager, at 803/323-2404 or longshawj@winthrop.edu.

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