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New Academic Leadership in Place for Start of Academic Year

Winthrop University

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ROCK HILL, S.C. - Winthrop starts its 126th year with new academic leadership and several new programs. Classes begin Aug. 23.

Debra Boyd, acting vice president for academic affairs, will lead the university's five colleges (Education, Business Administration, University College, Visual and Performing Arts, and Arts and Sciences), the Graduate School, and Dacus Library. She hopes to focus on sustainability and program innovation in the coming year, as well as the full implementation of the University-Level Competencies.

Other personnel changes include:

- Peter Judge will take the helm as interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.
- Jonathan Marx, chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, will also serve as interim chair of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies.
- Marsha Bollinger, geology, will chair a newly created department, interdisciplinary studies, to be housed in Bancroft Hall Annex.
- Dwight Dimaculangan will serve as acting chair of the Department of Biology and director of the Office of Undergraduate Research.
- Deana Morrow will move from associate dean in the College of Arts and Sciences to become the chair for the Department of Social Work.
- Beth Costner, chair of the Department of Mathematics, will also serve as associate dean and director of teacher education programs in the College of Arts and Sciences.
- Jack DeRochi will serve as associate dean and director of graduate studies for the College of Arts and Sciences.
- Carolyn Grant will direct the Office of Field and Clinical Experiences in the Richard W. Riley College of Education.
- Barbara Mallory will serve as the director of the Institute for Educational Renewal and Partnerships.
- Karen Derksen begins her first full year as director of the Winthrop University Galleries.
- Jennifer Sandler is the new study abroad coordinator.

The Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, which was launched this summer, will provide opportunities for Winthrop to develop new areas of study that cross usual academic boundaries, such as individualized majors, which have particular appeal to honors students. Business students entering this fall will be able to select a sustainable business option to learn about the concepts of sustainability applied to management, innovation, the environment, and social responsibility.

Incoming freshmen also will be the first class fully engaged in the Global Learning Initiative. The five-year plan will help students develop global knowledge, attitudes, and engagement, encourage study abroad experiences and provide for more cultural events that allow students to see different local,
national and international cultures. Karen Kedrowski is the director of the Global Learning Initiative.

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