Summer 6-7-2013

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Winthrop University

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S.C. Senators Present President DiGiorgio with Senate Resolution

ROCK HILL, S.C. — Under the leadership of President Anthony DiGiorgio, Winthrop University has consistently been ranked among the top public institutions of its kind in the South, expanded access and opportunities for minority students, and gained a reputation for academic excellence, integrity and environmental achievements.

For these reasons and more, the South Carolina Senate honored DiGiorgio this spring for his 24 years of outstanding service. Senators Wes Hayes (R-York) and Creighton Coleman (D-Fairfield) presented the president with the resolution at the June 7 Board of Trustees meeting.

“The members of the South Carolina Senate appreciate the years of dedication that Tony DiGiorgio has devoted to Winthrop University and to education in the Palmetto State and wish him many years of enjoyment in his well-earned retirement,” the resolution states.

DiGiorgio’s parents instilled in him a love of education early in his life. After graduating from Gannon College, he taught English in New Jersey until becoming an instructor at Purdue University, where he earned master’s and doctorate degrees. He spent 19 years at various posts at the College of New Jersey and became Winthrop’s president in 1989.

The resolution notes DiGiorgio’s numerous achievements throughout his academic career, including:

- Attending the Institute for Educational Management at Harvard University in 1987;
- Leading the transition of Winthrop from a college to a university with full accreditation in all programs for which accreditation is offered;
- Increasing minority enrollment from 14 percent in 1990 to 29 percent today;
- Housing the state offices of Campus Compact and the S.C. Center for Teacher Recruitment, Retention and Advancement;
- Serving in numerous capacities on national organizations, such as the National Collegiate Athletics Association, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities Leadership Council and the Big South Conference; and
- Taking on roles in the community, such as partnering with the city of Rock Hill on many redevelopment initiatives.

“The members of the South Carolina Senate appreciate the years of dedication that Tony DiGiorgio has devoted to Winthrop University and to education in the Palmetto State and wish him many years of enjoyment in his well-earned retirement,” the resolution states.

Following his June 30 retirement as president, DiGiorgio will take a year-long sabbatical before
returning to campus to serve as President Emeritus and Distinguished Professor of Public Service and Leadership.