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Thomas Stringfellow '81 Promoted to President, CEO of Riverbanks Zoo

Winthrop University

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Thomas Stringfellow '81 Promoted to President, CEO of Riverbanks Zoo

Quick Facts

- Stringfellow is only the third executive to oversee the zoo in its 43-year history.
- The Columbia resident earned his B.S. in business administration at Winthrop.



Thomas Stringfellow

ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA – **Thomas Stringfellow '81** will lead **Riverbanks Zoo and Garden** in Columbia, South Carolina, as the zoo's **new president and CEO**.

Stringfellow, who has served as interim president since June, is only the **third executive** to oversee the zoo in its 43-year history. He began his career at Riverbanks in 2002 as director of marketing and became the zoo's chief operating officer in 2011.

The Columbia resident said that he is excited to “build upon Riverbanks’ past successes and continue to grow the zoo as a global leader in conservation, education, science and recreation.”

Stringfellow earned his B.S. in **business administration** at Winthrop, continuing a family tradition started by his mother, Sara C. Stringfellow '44, '73 of Rock Hill. She earned a B.A. in **English** and a M.A.T. in library science at Winthrop.

Mary Howard, chair of Riverbanks Park Commission, noted that Stringfellow brings “extensive knowledge and experience” after 25 years in the zoo and attractions industries. She added that Stringfellow will “ensure Riverbanks’ continued growth, financial success and leadership in the field of conservation.”

Prior to his leadership roles at the zoo, Stringfellow directed the sales and marketing efforts at various theme parks, including Paramount Parks’ Six Flags Over Georgia and Six Flags Whitewater Park, both in Atlanta, and American Adventures Family Entertainment Center and Six Flags Great Escape and Water Park in upstate New York.

Stringfellow is an active member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums and the International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions.

For more information, contact Meredith Carter, communications coordinator, at carterm@winthrop.edu or 803/323-2236.

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