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Winthrop University

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Chemistry Professor Robin Lammi to Direct University's Undergraduate Research

ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA – Chemistry Professor Robin Lammi will assume new duties this month as director of undergraduate research for Winthrop University.

University College Dean Gloria Jones said Lammi has a proven record in bringing grants to the university, organizing initiatives and working with students on her Alzheimer's disease research. In this new role, Lammi will work out of the Office of Undergraduate Research housed in University College in Dinkins Hall.

Lammi said she hopes to build on the success of her predecessor, Dwight Dimaculangan, the biology department chair who was the inaugural director, to involve even more students in undergraduate research.

Already Lammi has worked on:

• Developing new curricula for research and independent study courses
• Organizing and directing Winthrop’s Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) in chemistry, biology, geology and mathematics from 2007 to the present. SURE students spend eight to 10 weeks engaged in mentored research during the summer with Winthrop faculty
• Collaborating with 26 Winthrop undergraduates on scholarly work related to Alzheimer's disease – preparing students for entry into graduate and professional programs, as well as the scientific workforce
• Participating in organizing multiple conferences showcasing undergraduate scholarship
• Seeking and obtaining hundreds of thousands in grant funding to support undergraduate research

Lammi arrived at Winthrop in 2003 and was promoted this month to a full professor.

Her research involves using visible spectroscopic tools (harnessing the interaction of visible light with molecules) to investigate molecular properties. She works with undergraduates to quantify and understand the earliest steps in the association of amyloid-beta, the small protein linked to Alzheimer's disease.

Lammi also has published numerous scientific articles and has received research funding from the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health.

She holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, and a Ph.D. in chemistry from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. She held a postdoctoral fellowship to study single molecule spectroscopy at the University of Texas Austin.