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Professor and Columbia Judge-Alumna Selected as Liberty Fellows

Winthrop University

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Professor and Columbia Judge/Alumna Selected as Liberty Fellows

Quick Facts

- The 23 Liberty Fellows are described as action-oriented leaders with ambitious goals for a stronger South Carolina and were selected from more than 400 nominations from across the state.
- Chosen as Winthrop Fellows are: DeAndrea Gist Benjamin '94, circuit court judge for the 5th Judicial Circuit and married to Columbia Mayor Stephen Benjamin, and Scott Huffmon, a political science professor and director of Social & Behavioral Research Lab and its much-quoted Winthrop Poll.



DeAndrea Gist Benjamin

GREENVILLE, S.C. – A statewide leadership organization has named a Winthrop alumna and a political science professor among the 23 new **Liberty Fellows** in the Class of 2015.

The 23 Liberty Fellows are described as action-oriented leaders with ambitious goals for a stronger South Carolina and were selected from more than 400 nominations from across the state. Those with Winthrop connections are **DeAndrea Gist Benjamin** '94, circuit court judge for the 5th Judicial Circuit and married to **Columbia Mayor Stephen Benjamin**, and **Scott Huffmon**, a political science professor and director of **Social & Behavioral Research Lab** and its much-quoted **Winthrop Poll**.



Scott Huffmon

“Individually, the new Fellows are enormously impressive, and they join 185 other Liberty Fellows who are deeply rooted in South Carolina with the passion and the expertise to make an impact here,” said **Hayne Hipp**, who co-founded **Liberty Fellowship** with his wife, **Anna Kate**.

Liberty Fellows participate in four seminars over a two-year period. They reflect on what makes a just society, thereby deepening knowledge, broadening perspectives and enhancing their capacity to solve the problems leaders face in this state.

During the **Globalization Seminar**, Fellows will interact with the Fellows from Aspen Global Leadership Network in locations such as South Africa, Jordan, India and China. Additionally, during the first two years of the program, each **Liberty Fellow** is paired with a mentor and commits to a personal leadership project focused on South Carolina.

“Each class is carefully crafted so that the Fellow differences complement one another,” added **Executive Director Jennie Johnson**. “It is through this class mosaic that Fellows build trust with those of different perspectives and, ultimately, are accountable to one another to engage in leadership that will move South Carolina forward.”

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IN THE HEART OF THE CAROLINAS

