Fall 8-26-2014

Inaugural Provost's Spotlight on Scholarship Series Highlights Faculty Research

Winthrop University

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Recommended Citation
Winthrop University, "Inaugural Provost's Spotlight on Scholarship Series Highlights Faculty Research" (2014). Winthrop News 2014. 153.
https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/winthropnews2014/153
ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA — This academic year, Winthrop University will highlight the research of five faculty members through the inaugural Provost's Spotlight on Scholarship Series. These “Lunch and Learn” sessions will be held at 11 a.m. in Dinkins Auditorium. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own lunch, and desserts and beverages will be provided.

"It is an understood truth on our campus that many of our strongest teachers facilitate classes that are informed by their research," said Acting President and Provost Debra Boyd. "This lunch and learn series provides an important opportunity for our larger campus community—not just our students—to become more familiar with the scholarship of their peers. I am very much looking forward to attending each of these five presentations."

The five sessions are:

**Thursday, Sept. 4**
By Peter Judge, chair of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies
Judge notes that it is widely accepted that Mark was the earliest Gospel and was used by the authors of Matthew and Luke as their basic narrative source. However, he asserts that the two Gospels have additional material that is common only to them, and there is evidence that they used a common literary source for the material—known as source Q. His research relates to the hypothetical document “Q” and our understanding of the community behind it.

**Thursday, Oct. 9**
“For-Profit vs. Not-For-Profit Higher Education: Are Differences Driven by Schools or Students?”
By Associate Professor of Economics Laura Ullrich
Ullrich spent the spring 2014 semester in Kosovo as a Fulbright Scholar. Ullrich notes that a college education has become increasingly important in maintaining competitiveness in the job market. While the number of traditional four-year and community colleges in the nation have expanded and multiplied, so have proprietary, for-profit institutions. This presentation examines the differences in student loan debt and graduation outcomes between the not-for-profit and for-profit institutions.

**Thursday, Nov. 13**
“Albanian Traditional Music: A General Overview.”
By Associate Professor and Authority Control Librarian Spiro Shetuni
Shetuni, a native of Albania, says that the music, still an obscure subject, reflects a musical environment of both the Balkans and the Mediterranean world and is “not simply a heritage of the past, but above all, a vibrant contemporary art.” His presentation will examine the distinct musical culture of Albania, both monophonic and polyphonic, by delineating its four main musical dialects—Gheg, Tosk, Lab and Urban—along with its origins, styles and features.

Thursday, Feb. 5, 2015
By Associate Professor of Music Connie Hale
Hale is active across the state and nation as a clinician, and her articles have appeared in publications such as The Orff Echo and Music Educators Journal. She has spent much time in Ireland researching the country’s storytelling and songs.

Thursday, April 2, 2015
“The Studying of Math Interventions for Non-Strategic Learners.”
By Professor and Special Education Program Coordinator Bradley Witzel
Response to intervention (RTI) and multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) are educational approaches designed to provide interventions and academic assistance to students quickly after difficulties emerge. Witzel provides insight into the field of mathematics interventions with an emphasis on preventing failure in mathematics.

For more information on the Provost Series, contact Meg Webber at 803/323-2220 or e-mail her at webberm@winthrop.edu.