Fall 9-22-2011

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Winthrop University

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New Sustainability Coordinator Hired at Winthrop to Lead University Efforts

ROCK HILL, S.C. – Chris Johnson started work this month at Winthrop in a newly created position as sustainability coordinator.

He will lead efforts to make sustainability an integral part of the Winthrop Experience for students, faculty and staff. His position is made possible with help from the Dalton family, who established the Harry and 'Becca Dalton Endowed Chair in Environmental Sciences and Environmental Studies.

So far, Johnson has hosted green design architect Neil Chambers and met with different groups to understand how his job fits into Facilities Management and the campus.

Some of his tasks include:

- Developing a web page.
- Re-energizing the campus recycling program, as well as devising educational strategies.
- Examining potential policies related to sustainability that the campus should consider adopting.
- Working with Residence Life staff to develop strategies for programming in the residence halls.
- Connecting with sustainability coordinators from other campuses in the state and region and developing a support group that can exchange ideas.
- Identifying funding sources for future projects.
- Developing a strategy for internal building audits and identifying buildings with the most to gain.
- Working on a strategy to meter campus utilities at individual buildings.
- Teaching classes on sustainability.

A 1999 Winthrop graduate in interior design, Johnson earned a master of architecture from the University of North Carolina Charlotte. He has worked as an interior designer at White Office Furniture and most recently as project designer for the FWA Group.