



February 2024

ECONOMIC IMPACT RESULTS

[Study Shows Winthrop is a Driving Force in Local Economy](#)



As an integral part of York County, Winthrop contributes heavily to the local economy, generating more than \$200 million of activity in York County for 2023. An [economic impact study](#) started last spring found that the institution, along with its faculty, staff and students, contribute greatly to the area. President Edward Serna '02 said he requested the study so partners, donors and other stakeholders could appreciate the university's value to the surrounding areas.

ALUMNI TRUSTEE VOTING

Isaiah Venning Wins Alumni Trustee Representative Seat



Isaiah Venning '95, '00, has won an additional six-year term as one of the alumni representatives to the Board of Trustees. Venning, who has been on the board in the alumni seat since 2018, will now serve through 2030. Approximately 900 alumni cast their vote during the month-long trustee election. Thank you to everyone who voted!

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Jackie McFadden Named Dean of Dacus Library



Jackie McFadden, the interim dean of the Ida Jane Dacus Library and Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections, will assume the permanent dean's position on March 1. A tenured faculty member, McFadden started her career at Winthrop in 2001 and has held several

positions. In addition to her professional achievements, she is widely recognized for her efforts to designate the Marsh Tacky as the State Heritage Horse of South Carolina.

ALUMNAE DISCUSS EXPERIENCES

[Women's Coalition to Sponsor "Women and the Law" Panel](#)



Three alumnae – a federal judge, a defense attorney and an estate planning lawyer – will speak at a March 4 “Women and the Law” event. Sponsored by the [Winthrop Women's Coalition](#), the free event will take place at 7 p.m. in Dina's Place in the DiGiorgio Campus Center. The panelists are DeAndrea Gist Benjamin '94, judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit; Susan Barber Hackett '00, chief staff attorney at the S.C. Court of Appeals; and Casey N. Ferri '09, an attorney practicing with Conrad Trosch & Kemmy, P.A.

PLANNED GIVING TOOL

[Create a Free Online Will to Leave a Lasting Legacy](#)



Winthrop has partnered with FreeWill to offer our supporters a free online will-writing tool at absolutely no cost. FreeWill allows users to create a quick and easy will from the comfort of home, and the will can be customized to users' wishes and can be paired with an attorney for complex estates. A revocable living trust (RLT) option is available. [Create a free will now!](#)

[A Message from the Alumni Director](#)



Thank you to all of our alumni who voted in the Alumni Board of Trustees Election, and congratulations to Isaiah Venning for winning another term on the board! Isaiah is a wonderful ambassador for all Winthrop alumni, and I look forward to our continued work together! As we approach spring, we are excited for all of the special events coming up in March and April, and for our next Virtual Alumni Book Club selection. Keep reading for more information on

what is happening, and please make plans to attend! Check out our [upcoming events](#) for opportunities to get involved.

The mission of the Alumni Association is to honor the traditions and values of Winthrop University through the engagement of alumni worldwide.

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