



July 6, 2005

Gale DiGiorgio honored for community involvement and volunteerism



Gale DiGiorgio

The Arts Council of Rock Hill and York County presented Gale DiGiorgio with the Ben Ardrey Volunteer Award for 2005 during its annual meeting on June 23.

Mrs. DiGiorgio, who is married to Winthrop University President Anthony DiGiorgio, has been involved in the arts community in this area for a number of years as a leader and volunteer, beginning with her extensive involvement with ARTS etc. She has served as chair of the Artist Series Selection Committee and as a member of the Executive Committee, the Arts Education Committee, the Taste of the Arts Fundraising Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee.

“Gale’s deep appreciation of the importance of art to any community and her marvelous talents as a mediator were important during the merger of ARTS etc and the Arts Council of Rock Hill and York County,” noted Martie Curran, who nominated Mrs. DiGiorgio. Curran, assistant vice president and executive director of alumni relations, is the immediate past president of the Arts Council.

Jeffrey Sligh, who won the award last year and is a former board member, observed that Mrs. DiGiorgio had given a great deal of time and energy to create and promote activities and opportunities for York County residents to experience the arts through music, visual art and dance. Her work as vice president for programming over the past four years has been outstanding, he said.

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Department of Counseling and Leadership to undergo reorganization this summer

The Richard W. Riley College of Education will reorganize this summer, moving from four to three departments. The smallest area, the Department of Counseling and Leadership which has five faculty members, will be split among two other departments.

The change will allow for more efficiency and will require minor office changes, said university administrators.

The counseling professors — Johnny Sanders Jr., the unit head for counseling; Peggy Whiting, who works with community counseling; and Ida Chauvin, who works with school counseling — will move to the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. Meanwhile, the two professors in leadership — Mark Mitchell and Mary Martin — will join the Center for Pedagogy.



Sue Peck

The curriculum and instruction department, chaired by Sue Peck, will then expand to 19 faculty members who teach classes in the department’s six undergraduate degrees (early childhood education, elementary education, special education, middle level education, and family and consumer sciences) and five graduate degree programs (reading, special education, middle level education, curriculum and instruction, and counseling).

The Center for Pedagogy, chaired by Jonatha Vare, will have 16 faculty members who teach and work with the required core curricula for both graduate and undergraduate programs. The center houses the Master of Arts in Teaching and the M.Ed. in Educational Leadership programs.



Jonatha Vare



Essie Mae Williams recently was welcomed to campus by Jermaine Whirl, Student Alumni Council president. The pair is pictured in the lobby of Thurmond Building, named for Williams’ father, the late Senator Strom Thurmond. Williams spoke at Winthrop on June 18 about her life and book, “Dear Senator,” as part of Mount Prospect Baptist Church’s Juneteenth celebration.

Book was main focus of Whiting's four-month sabbatical



Peggy Whiting

When Peggy Whiting, professor of counseling and leadership, tells peers the topic of her fall 2004 sabbatical research - grief, they almost always respond the same way: "Don't you find that depressing?" Then Whiting replies to the contrary, reflecting on her 20 years of

post-doctoral work and counseling, during which time she's witnessed inspirational changes in the lives of people who have survived tremendous loss and have gone on to live happy, fulfilling lives.

During her four-month sabbatical, Whiting moved closer to the completion of her book entitled "Celebration of a Homecoming," which uses "home" and "pilgrimage" as metaphors for how transformation occurs after loss. More specifically, Whiting's research has found that transformation best occurs in the comfort and rest of one's home base, and having a challenge and journey outward toward something new. □

Whiting previously studied with Robert Neimeyer, a professor of psychology at the

University of Memphis, who also counsels in private practice and has published extensively. For her book, Whiting has built on Neimeyer's theory of narrative reconstruction to explain how people create meaning out of their experiences of loss. The process helps them to more capably move through the grieving process.

"Unresolved grief costs our nation millions because it manifests itself in mental and physical problems," Whiting said. "Sadly, many counselors and social workers are ill-equipped to properly counsel clients because they were not specifically schooled in the subject."

Whiting said that only a handful of the country's institutions offer courses on grief education. In that respect, Winthrop is unique in its provision of a graduate-level course, CSDV 608: Loss and Grief Counseling, which she has taught for the past 11 years. She hopes to further advance the professional education of this topic with the publication of her book next spring.

"While grieving is largely a private experience, people need the help of others to reconstruct their lives. They need people to listen, to help them build new skills and to foster their self-confidence," Whiting said.

Whiting adds that the North American culture perpetuates many myths about grief, one of which is that children are less impacted by loss because they're too young to know what's happening.

"The younger the child, the more vulnerable they are," Whiting explained. "Young children have fewer resources to deal with what's happening - resources like thinking

Sabbatical continued on page 3

Fund established in memory of Keith Krotish



Keith Krotish

Keith Krotish, 41, a part-time instructor in the Department of Health and Physical Education, died June 2 at Piedmont Medical Center. Krotish taught several classes at Winthrop including Taekwondo, Self Defense, and Motor Learning and Control. Krotish's passion was Taekwondo in which he held a fourth degree black belt. He was a certified international referee and was named National Referee of the Year in 1999, according to The Herald. In addition, Krotish was a member of the National Guard from 1982-91 where he served as captain of the Burlington Armory.

Krotish received his master's degree in physical education from Winthrop and was a Ph.D. candidate in the same field at the University of South Carolina.

Krotish was preceded in death by his father, Paul Krotish, and his son, Ian Krotish. He is survived by his wife, Debra Krotish '04; two sons and one daughter; his parents, Felton and Joan Brown of Mebane, N.C.; one brother and one sister.

A memorial service was held on June 5 at First Baptist Church in Rock Hill. Non-tax deductible contributions, in support of his family, should be marked "Keith Krotish Memorial Fund," and sent to Stevie Chepko in the Department of Health and Physical Education or directly to: Carolina First, c/o Amy Miller, P.O. Box 12037, Rock Hill, S.C. 29731.



Painters recently gave a fresh coat of color to the corridor that links McBryde Hall to the Tillman Hall breezeway. These skilled tradesmen, Ray Logan (left) and Herbert Smith (right) represent two of the 39 workers who completed more than 13,500 campus work orders from May 2004 to May 2005. The work orders were jobs that required the skills of a painter, plumber, electrician, carpenter, etc., but did not include the equally important day-to-day maintenance performed by Winthrop's custodians and groundskeepers.

DiGiorgio *continued from page 1*

As Mrs. DiGiorgio rotates off the Arts Council board, it is fitting that she be given the Ben Ardrey Volunteer Award, Sligh said. The award, which was created in 1992 to recognize those individuals who have committed themselves to arts and culture, is named for the late Ben Ardrey, a Rock Hill pediatrician, who personified dedication and was himself a tireless worker on the community's behalf.

Since the DiGiorgios moved to Rock Hill in 1989, Mrs. DiGiorgio has been active in a variety of community service areas which have included: past member of the Commission for Children and Youth sponsored by the city of Rock Hill; current member of the York County Alliance for Children; tutor with the outreach ministries of Oakland Avenue Presbyterian Church; and past member of several church committees at Oakland. She served as campaign chair of the Greater Rock Hill United Way in 1995 when the agency first reached a \$1 million goal. She also was honorary co-chairwoman of a recent Pilgrims' Inn fundraising campaign and was a chair of Communities in Schools, a national dropout-prevention program for Rock Hill and Fort Mill high school students.

Sabbatical *continued from page 2*

skills, social skills, and expressive abilities. Part of working through loss is knowing where to find support and knowing what feelings are appropriate, etc."

Whiting acknowledges that it's hard to remain detached when researching a topic of this nature. And that was compounded by the untimely deaths of her father, at the beginning of her sabbatical, and her father-in-law, at the end.

"I have been privileged to witness the rebuilding and recreating process of others in times of their grief. □ I have also been called to live this material as I reflect upon the disruption of my own sorrow," Whiting said. □ "My hope is that I might, in the words of the great educator, Parker Palmer 'let my life speak.'" □



Work continues on Winthrop's new outdoor track, currently being built by Farley Construction Company near the university's golf course. The \$2.8 million project will give Winthrop an NCAA Division I competition track with a top-quality Mondo rubberized surface. The track will encircle a full-sized practice field for soccer, as well as areas for field events, such as discus and pole vault. Here, concrete blocks stabilize the surface, helping the sections bond to each other.

Winthrop in the news

Compiled by University Relations staff, this listing chronicles Winthrop faculty and staff comments in the newspaper, radio and television during June:

Winthrop outfielder Daniel Carte and pitchers Kevin Slowey and Chris Leroux have signed Major League Baseball contracts with the Colorado Rockies and Minnesota Twins, respectively, after being selected in the 2005 draft. "It's great for our program," said Coach **Joe Hudak** in the June 22 Charlotte Observer.

Mark Mitchell, an assistant professor who recently joined the Richard W. Riley College of Education, attended a Rock Hill school district workshop for teachers to observe the college's student interns. The workshops encouraged teachers to be more creative in engaging students, which Mitchell said will benefit the students on several levels. "I think if children are engaged, they also behave better," he said in the June 15 Herald.

Moving away from home at 18 is common for American young people, reports **Jack Tucker**, professor of sociology, in the June 12 Herald. He said those most mobile are in the 18- to 25-age range. Being closer to family is one reason people move, according to **Jennifer Solomon**, professor of sociology, in the same article about the mobility of today's society.

Composing for **Ronald Parks**, assistant professor of music, is something he does for pure excitement, according to the June 8 Charlotte Observer. "The act of composing—it satisfies my curiosity. It's like finding my way through a musical landscape that I'm the first person to experience."

S.C. Democrats, on the whole less liberal than those elsewhere, often hold their national party leaders at arm's length. But National Democratic Party Chairman Howard Dean, the former Vermont governor who established himself as a charismatic, though polarizing, figure during his unsuccessful run for the party's 2004 presidential nomination, appears to be in a class by himself. Winthrop University political science professor **Scott Huffmon** said he doubts that any S.C. Democrat running for state office will show up at a \$50 per person fundraiser and party rally with Dean. "None of them want to risk the chance of having a photograph taken standing next to him that could reappear at election time," Huffmon said in the June 26 Charlotte Observer.

Papers and presentations

Paul Dezendorf, social work, recently presented a paper entitled "Impact of NGOs on Russian Public Administration," in Moscow, Russia, at the annual meeting of Schools of Public Administration of Central and Eastern Europe. In addition, Dezendorf also facilitated World Bank training of senior government officials regarding social welfare policy.

Shelley Hamill, health and physical education, with Edie Ellis and Deb Miller, had an article entitled "Seek, Accept, Avoid: Addressing Risk Behaviors" published in "Great Ideas in Teaching Health and Wellness," a national peer-reviewed newsletter.

Sandy Wilson, health and physical education, along with Jacqueline Williams and Bobby Liftka, presented "Searching for Spirit: Asserting the Affective Domain in Professional Education" at the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance's national convention in Chicago, Ill.



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Next Issue: **July 27, 2005**
 Deadline: **July 15, 2005**

Calendar of Events

- July 6**
Faculty Showcase II - Dance, Drama and Creative Writing
 Johnson Theatre, 8:30-9:30 p.m.
- July 7**
Indian Music and Grupo Latino de Rock Hill
 Johnson Theatre, 8:30-9:30 p.m.
- July 11**
Kaleidoscope - Character/Improv Night
 Johnson Theatre, 8:30-9:30 p.m.
- July 13**
Kaleidoscope - Dance Night
 Johnson Theatre, 8:30-9:30 p.m.
- July 14**
Kaleidoscope - Drama Night
 Johnson Theatre, 8:30-9:30 p.m.
- July 15**
Kaleidoscope - Talent Show
 Johnson Theatre, 8:30-9:30 p.m.
- July 16**
Kaleidoscope - Final Program
 Johnson Theatre, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Professional activities

Ron Parks, music, recently performed a juried piece entitled "Afterimage 3" for percussion and computer processing at the national conference of the Society for Electroacoustic Music, held in Muncie, Ind. Parks also performed a juried piece entitled "fractures" for digital media at the Florida Electroacoustic Music Festival, in Gainesville, Fla. In addition, Parks performed "Test Pieces for Piano, Numbers 1 Through 7" and "SEAM" at Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, N.C.

"Floating," an artwork series by **Tom Stanley, Winthrop Galleries**, is showcased in the exhibition "Homegrown," which will open July 15 at the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art in Winston-Salem, N.C.

Sue Peck, curriculum and instruction, joined the Central Piedmont Community College Board of Trustees in July. The Charlotte, N.C., based college is the largest of the 58 community colleges in North Carolina. Peck will serve a four-year term on the board as one of four representatives appointed by the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners. There are 13 board members in all.

Classifieds

House for sale - 4 bedroom, 3 baths, over an acre lot, 2 car garage, indoor hot tub and pool table. Located on Pinetuck Golf Course. For an appointment, call Cheryl at ext. 2641 or Eric at 980-4222.

House for rent - 2 bedroom, 1 bath, kitchen/den, screened-in back porch, hardwood floors, fenced-in backyard, quiet neighborhood and shaded front yard. Located off of Woodlawn Road and is approximately 25 minutes from Winthrop and 10 minutes from uptown Charlotte. For more information, please call Cindy at 704/588-1946 or email furrc@winthrop.edu.

'04 Honda Odyssey EX (sandstone metallic). 3.5 liter VTEC V6 engine, 240 horsepower, AM/FM/CD/stereo with six speakers, anti-theft system, front and rear air conditioning, dual automatic sliding doors, seats 7 (4 captain's chairs and bench seat). Excellent condition, like new - only 7,000 miles. \$25,935. Call 366-1695 or 517-8457. Email castillog@winthrop.edu for pictures.

Snapper riding lawnmower - 8 horsepower Briggs, hi vacuum, good condition, \$375 firm; **Diamond Back mountain bike** (Response) front shocks, aluminum frame, 21 speed, like new, \$300; and **set of Perilla tires** off of Ford F-250, 265/75/R16, \$300. Contact Richard at 329-0105.

Position available

Visit www.winthrop.edu/hr for more information about the following vacancy:

Student Affairs Coordinator for AmeriCorps and community service programs

Student Affairs - Division of Student Life
 Bachelor's degree required. Master's degree preferred. One-year position with possible renewal. Deadline July 8.

Correction

■ In the June 15 issue of *FYI*, the article announcing the new usage policy for the Winthrop Golf Course incorrectly stated that immediate family members of students are allowed to play the course for free with a Screamin' Eagle Card. The cards are only for immediate family of faculty and staff members.