Explore the new DiGiorgio Center on Aug. 27

The 128,000-square-foot DiGiorgio Campus Center will bring the heart of campus to Scholars Walk when it opens in August.

A campuswide open house is planned for Aug. 27 from 2-5 p.m. Students, faculty and staff will get to explore the facility, enjoy a variety of entertainment, taste samples from ARAMARK’s food court and have their chance to win door prizes.

Offices for the Council of Student Leaders, the Dean of Students, DSU, Fraternity and Sorority Affairs, the Johnsonian, Multicultural Student Life, New Student and Parent Programs, the Post Office, Residence Life, the Vice President for Student Life, and Volunteer and Community Service are scheduled to relocate to the building during the week of Aug. 2.

Student organizations are excited about space within the building designated just for them, where they will be able to hone their leadership skills. The area includes a conference room, informal meeting spaces and 12 computer work stations just for use by student organizations. Groups also will be able to apply for use of one of 48 storage lockers with mobile cubbies, which organizations can use to store their files. The mobile cubby will wheel out of the locker for ease of use when it is time to meet.

“I really see that as a high energy space, groups coming together and brainstorming,” Alicia Marstall, program director for clubs and organizations, said. “They will have a designated space for their work.”

A digital signage system will allow student organizations to promote their events and activities throughout the building.

Medieval studies minor available beginning in fall

This fall, students can go medieval on their transcripts.

Students can declare the minor in medieval studies (MDST), approved in April 2009, beginning in fall 2010. The 18-hour, interdisciplinary minor offers three dozen courses — both existing and newly created — that are particularly useful to students studying fields such as history, English, political science, philosophy and religious studies, art history, music, theatre and dance, and modern languages.

Jo Koster, professor of English, and Laura Dufresne, professor of art history, started discussing the idea for a new minor about six years ago. The two collaborated with Peter Judge, chair of philosophy and religious studies, and Andrew Vorder Bruegge, chair of theatre and dance, to create the program. The minor, which took two years to put together, includes interdisciplinary courses in English, anthropology, history, art history and more, as well as a variety of relevant special topics courses. The program also allows students to pursue global studies opportunities.

The minor in MDST, Koster explained, is an excellent way “to pull together students’ interdisciplinary interests in pre-modern studies.” She noted that the program will prove especially helpful to students who want to go into pre-modern fields of study.

Students in the MDST minor will be encouraged to meet with members of the Medieval Studies Advisory Board.
Winthrop, Shakespeare Carolina form partnership

Shakespeare Carolina and Winthrop are joining forces to bring the works of The Bard — and other Elizabethan and classical dramatists — to the Rock Hill community.

Starting in summer 2011, Winthrop and Shakespeare Carolina will form a partnership to produce classical theatre locally. Shakespeare Carolina at Winthrop will combine the artistic leadership of Shakespeare Carolina with the faculty and students of the Department of Theatre and Dance. The partnership will present two or three productions during the summer in Johnson Theatre.

Shakespeare Carolina at Winthrop will support Shakespeare Carolina’s vision in several important ways:

• CVPA’s resources will enhance the artistic quality of the company’s productions, with Johnson Theatre serving as Shakespeare Carolina’s summer home. Involvement of Winthrop’s faculty and students will enhance the artistic quality of the company’s work.

• Winthrop will support actively the company’s ambition to become a fully professional operation, hiring the region’s best directors and choreographers, the most qualified designers in all areas and Equity-status guest actors.

• The partnership will support the company’s plans to expand its repertory to include productions by other Elizabethan dramatists and classical works from ancient authors.

Winthrop’s arts programming will reap its own benefits from the new working relationship:

• The partnership will provide professional artistic opportunities for faculty during the summer.

• Students will have a local opportunity to participate in intensive summer theatre experience. Students will be able to earn academic credit for their participation, and their academic experience will include elements such as master classes, reading, research and intensive training in classical performance techniques and applied learning through participation in Shakespeare Carolina’s productions. Faculty members in theatre and dance will supervise students’ involvement with the company.

• The Winthrop community will have local access to excellent summer theatre, and the partnership will bring the Rock Hill community a premiere summer entertainment series on campus.

Shakespeare Carolina at Winthrop will expand to include numerous initiatives, such as forming an apprentice company of high school students as a way to grow talent in the community; developing parallel early music and early dance programming alongside the theatre productions; and offering theatre classes (taught by faculty/students who are members of Shakespeare Carolina at Winthrop) during the day for local K-12 students.

Medieval studies cont. from p. 1

Committee to explore ways to study medieval culture and history abroad. In the future, the program may expand to offer more global study opportunities, as well as create additional special topics classes geared toward medieval studies, said Koster.

Interest in these pre-modern fields isn’t a fluke, Koster added, because the medieval period has much to tell the modern world about its realities.

“The medieval period is a good mirror of our period: There was popular resistance to government; people were examining the role of faith in their lives; the role of women was changing on a daily basis; and new technologies were changing the way people thought about their world,” said Koster.

For more information about the medieval studies minor, contact Koster at ext. 6557 or e-mail kosterf@winthrop.edu, or visit http://www.winthrop.edu/mdstminor.

DiGiorgio Center cont. from p. 1

low student groups and university departments to advertise events on screens throughout the building, eliminating the need for paper flyers. A nine-screen video wall on the main floor will share announcements, but also could be used to show televised events.

In the food court, ARAMARK will offer Popeye’s Chicken, AFC Sushi, Jump Asian Express, Burger Studio, Zoca and Topio’s Pizza. On the ground floor, Einstein’s Bros. Bagels will be open for late night dining, and on the main floor will be a Starbucks.

In addition to the numerous food options, the DiGiorgio Center will be home to a cinema-quality theatre, which also can be used for small performances or lectures. The recreational area will have ping-pong and pool tables, along with Wii, Xbox 360 and PS3 gaming systems. The Winthrop Book Store will relocate from its current location on Cherry Road to a large space on the main floor. A banquet hall will play host to large-group functions, such as the annual Homecoming party.

The building is connected to the Lois Rhame West Health, Physical Education and Wellness Center by a distinctive open-air plaza, allowing the facilities to function in tandem.

Ready to explore the DiGiorgio Center? Be sure to attend the Aug. 27 open house. Contact Marstall at ext. 2248 for more information.

Professional activity

Mark Hamilton, fine arts, served as juror for the 2010 photo competition and exhibit now on display at the York County Arts Council on Main Street in Rock Hill. Hamilton also was the recipient of the first- and third-place prizes in the advanced black and white category in the S.C. Festival of Flowers Art 2010 Photo Competition sponsored by Fuji Photo in Greenwood, S.C. The first-place prize includes a purchase award by Fuji Photo for their corporate collection.
Welcome to Winthrop

Billy Dahlgren, student affairs, has joined Winthrop as the assistant director of campus center operations. The Decatur, Ga., native previously served as the assistant director of student activities at Florida State University. Dahlgren holds a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering and a master’s degree in college student personnel, both from the University of Tennessee. In his spare time, he enjoys playing golf and softball, watching college football and baseball games, attending concerts and reading.

Rob Dellibovi, admissions, has joined Winthrop as a counselor. The Westfield, Mass., native previously worked as an admissions counselor at Mount Ida College. Dellibovi attended the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, where he majored in business marketing and minored in economics. In his spare time he enjoys watching movies, listening to music and traveling.

Lindsey Dombert, student affairs, recently joined Winthrop as the program director for Fraternity and Sorority Affairs. The Elon University graduate and Washington, D.C., native enjoys playing tennis, running and traveling in her spare time.

Jerry Fussell ’09, student affairs, began July 1 as Winthrop’s technology services coordinator and night manager. A native of Jacksonville, N.C., Fussell earned a bachelor’s degree from Winthrop. He previously worked as a facility supervisor for the West Center. His hobbies include watching movies, listening to music, watching and participating in sports, and working with audio/visual equipment.

Kevin Gardner ’08, facilities management, joined Winthrop on July 1 as a project assistant. The Columbia, S.C., native and Eagle Scout earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Winthrop. He previously worked as a research assistant for the Carolina Ethanol Partnership. In his spare time he enjoys playing the guitar and learning about world history.

Mike Rapay, student affairs, joined Winthrop as assistant director of campus programming. The Virginia Beach native earned a bachelor’s degree from Averett University and a master’s degree from Old Dominion University. During his college years he was named Averett University’s Student Leader of the Year. Rapay previously worked as a graduate assistant to student activities at Christopher Newport University. He enjoys watching movies, traveling and participating in professional development activities.

Jennifer Sandler, International Center, was recently hired as the study abroad coordinator. The Charlotte, N.C., native earned a bachelor’s degree from Queens University and a master’s degree from Albert-Ludwigs Universitaet in Freiburg, Germany. Sandler previously worked as an office manager for Stewart & Conners Architects. Her hobbies include yoga, traveling and knitting.

In brief

• The Big South Conference’s Team Sportsmanship Awards for its eight spring sports were recently determined, and Winthrop received plaudits in two sports. The university tied with Gardner-Webb for the softball Sportsmanship Award and Winthrop was included in a three-way tie with Charleston Southern and Liberty for the men’s golf Sportsmanship Award.

• Rachel Smith ’10 and rising junior Katie Bolling have been named to the 2010 National Golf Coaches Association All-American Scholar Team for Division I. For Smith it marks the third time in her career that she has received the honor. She compiled a cumulative GPA of 3.726 while majoring in marketing. Bolling received the award for the first time after achieving a 3.947 GPA as a biochemistry major.

• The volleyball team is one of 94 NCAA Division I colleges and university squads that earned the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Team Academic Award for 2009-10. The team compiled a cumulative 3.39 GPA for the fall and spring semesters.

Milestone

Congratulations to Shelley Giles Jones ’97, Office of the President, and husband Jerod ’98 on the June 30 birth of their son, Shepard Giles Jones. Shepard weighed 7 lbs. 10 oz. and was 21 inches long.
Winthrop in the news

Compiled by University Relations staff, this listing chronicles Winthrop faculty and staff comments in the media during late June and July:

The Herald wrote about biology faculty member Heather Evans-Anderson’s work with sea squirts in its July 18 edition, which also appeared in The State and Myrtle Beach Sun News.

The Bookworm is changing its name to the Winthrop Book Store, moving into the new campus center and offering a textbook rental program, according to manager LeeAnne Johnson in the July 17 Herald.

To promote “Much Ado About Nothing,” Chris O’Neill, artistic director for Shakespeare Carolina and technical director at Winthrop, appeared on WRHI July 14 and July 17 and on CN2’s July 22 edition.

Winthrop has hired Education Dynamics to help find, enroll and retain students who may be at-risk for dropping out, according to Frank Ardiaulo, vice president for student life, in a July 1 release on Campus Technology’s website.

The Salisbury Post interviewed Christina Brooks of the sociology and anthropology department for a mock crime scene she created at a summer youth employment camp at Livingstone College, according to the June 28 edition.

Campus police officers are stationed at the West Center because people think it is open to the public, but it is not, said Police Chief Frank Zebedis in the June 28 Herald.

The June 23 Washington Post quoted Adolphus Belk, associate professor of political science, on whether recent minority candidates in S.C. have mentioned their race.

Scott Huffmon of political science

Obituaries

Verlayne Humphries Henson, 75, passed away on July 6. A graveside service was held July 9 at Tirzah ARP Church.

Henson retired from Winthrop in July 2001 with 26 years of service. She was an administrative specialist in the Center for Pedagogy.

Surviving are her husband, Ed; a daughter, Tam Humphries; a stepson, Joey Henson; a stepdaughter, Dot Bruns; two brothers; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Shriners’ Hospital for Children, 950 West Paris St., Greenville, SC, 29605 or the York County Board of Disabilities, P.O. Box 30, Rock Hill, SC 29731.

Mary Sue Britton McElveen, 88, passed away on July 9. She was the first Winthrop alumna and the first woman to chair the Winthrop Board of Trustees.

McElveen served as permanent president of the Winthrop Class of 1943 and during her senior year, organized and played drums in an all-woman dance band, “The Swanks.” After serving on the board of trustees for 20 years, she retired as chairperson.

McElveen also was president of the Winthrop Alumni Association for two years and received the Mary Mildred Sullivan Award and an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters. One of her most cherished honors was the establishment of an endowed scholarship in her name at Winthrop.

Following graduation, McElveen worked as a cryptographer with U.S. Military Intelligence in Washington, D.C., and later as a stewardess with American Airlines. Former Governor Robert McNair appointed her to the Legislative Committee to study co-education at Winthrop; former Governor John West appointed her to the Legislative Committee to study automobile liability insurance; and former Governor Carroll Campbell awarded her the Order of the Palmetto.

Surviving are her husband, James Davis “Jim” McElveen; a daughter, Susan, and husband, O.H. “Hank” Powell; a son, James “Dave” Davis Jr., and wife, Jean; and a grandson, Michael H. Powell.

A memorial service was held July 11 at Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church in Columbia, S.C., and graveside services were held July 12 in Lake City, S.C.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Mary Sue Britton McElveen/Susie Kortjohn Britton scholarship at Winthrop, Sykes House, or the charity of one’s choice.