

# STAFF STUFF



a publication of the Winthrop University staff assembly  
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## TOP TEN stuff

On behalf of the staff conference, the committee behind *Staff Stuff* would like to thank Acting President Debra Boyd for her service to Winthrop over the past year. There aren't enough "thank yous" for the kind of dedication she has exhibited and the long hours she has worked, so we thought we'd make a handy **TOP TEN LIST** for her to use when she is wondering what to do with her newly-found free time starting in July.



10. Spend hours trolling ebay for rare, vintage Shakespeare collectibles.
9. Sleep.
8. Remember what her husband, Warren looks like in the daylight hours.
7. Slowly sip some Chick-fil-A tea by the Tillman magnolia tree.
6. Cash in all those unused massage gift cards.
5. Sit through an entire dinner or sporting event without having to rush off.
4. Scope out her own new parking spot and map a route to her office.
3. Book a vacation and play solitaire on the iPad during ELC meetings.
2. Forward calls and e-mails from legislators to Dr. Mahony.
1. Eat lunch with students at Sub Station II.

...Or, you know, just be **PROVOST**.



Athletic Director Tom Hickman (l) gives Debra Boyd a piece of lacrosse goal net from the Big South championship team to commemorate the big win and her year overseeing athletics as acting president.

Check out photos of WU staff and interesting campus happenings are on our *Winthrop Staff Assembly facebook page!*

**CLICK HERE TO LIKE US ON facebook**



## MAHONY stuff

Dr. Dan Mahony and family will be joining the Winthrop family officially later this month, and his first day on the job will be July 1. The staff in the Office of University Relations is putting together his official website, which will go live on his first day. Meanwhile, here are some tidbits of information to get you started getting to know Dr. Mahony:

**What's in your "to read" pile right now?** *The book I will be reading on my next trip will be The 21 Indispensable Qualities of a Leader by John Maxwell. Unfortunately, I do not get to read for pleasure too much - most the books I read are work-related in some way, and this was the most recent one that Laura recommended to me.*

**If you could win a ticket to any place on earth, where would you go and why?** *I would love to go to Australia. My favorite vacations usually involve the beach, but there is also so much more in Australia that I would love to see. It has been on the top of my "must see" places in the world for a long time.*

**Which animal do you most identify with?** *I am not sure I identify with any animal. Our high school mascot was a lion, so that has always been a favorite for me.*

**What are you looking forward to about living in South Carolina?** *Obviously, the weather will be a lot better in the winter – no more weeks of 20-below temperatures! But I think the thing we are looking forward to the most is the people. South Carolina is a very friendly place and we have felt very much at home during our visits because of the way people have treated us. We have also always loved hosting events at our home, and we know we will have lots of opportunities to do that when we get to Winthrop.*

**Is there anything else you'd like to tell Winthrop staff about yourself/your family?** *We are all very excited about coming to Rock Hill and becoming a part of the community. We believe this will be a great opportunity for all of us. Laura and I thoroughly enjoyed our experiences during the interview process, so we were very happy to get the offer to come. It was a little harder for our children, Gavin and Elena, who were not part of the interview process, so all they focused on at first was that they would be leaving all of their friends. However, after they had a chance to visit the campus and their new schools, their perspectives changed a lot. We went to a reunion event at Virginia Tech right after our visit to Winthrop. They both said Virginia Tech was nice, but they liked Winthrop much better. I knew at that point that they were feeling the same way Laura and I were after our first visit.*



# GRADUATION stuff

Six Winthrop employees earned either an undergraduate or graduate degree in the May Commencement ceremonies.

We caught up with Kiera Fayall who earned her B.A. in Sociology and works for the Winthrop campus police department.

“The most challenging thing about working full time as a police officer and earning a degree was that there never seemed to be enough hours in the day. My fall semester I was taking 17 credit hours and working full time. There were many mornings where I was getting off work at 6 a.m. (if I didn’t have a case folder I was still working on) and would have to turn around and be in an 8 a.m. class until 4 p.m. and head back to work at 6 p.m. to do it all over again.



*Fayall strikes a pose on Scholars Walk.*

“Earning my degree through the Employee Education Assistance Program (EEAP) was one of the biggest advantages to me. It is indeed a great pleasure working for Winthrop Police Department, but the incentive of being able to obtain your degree while earning money is always a plus. The EEAP program helped to greatly alleviate some financial burden.

“I would like to thank the faculty in the sociology department, especially Bradley Tripp, Jennifer Solomon, Johnathan Marx, and Christina Brooks, for being so kind and considerate to me in real-

izing my efforts and goals I was trying to obtain. There were many days that the duties of my job made it difficult to be present in class like most students, but these professors were very understanding and helped me to stay on task so that I would not get behind. They helped to encourage me every step of the way, and I thank God for blessing me with such a positive group of individuals.

“I would also like to thank Winthrop Chief of Police Frank Zebedis, Asst. Chief of Police Ken Scoggins, and my direct supervisor Sgt. Dewayne Bunch for their constant support and understanding during this challenging time. I want to thank them for allowing me to pursue my degree and helping to form me into the police officer that I am today.”

## What are you going to do with all your new “free” time?

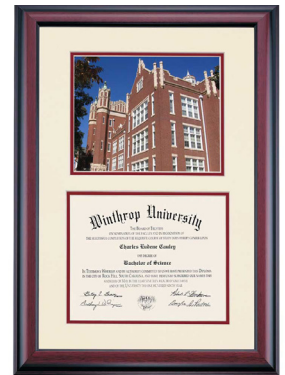
“I am going to continue to become a stronger police officer so I can one day reach my goal of becoming a detective in law enforcement or working in an administrative position in order to help rebuild positive relations between law enforcement and surrounding communities.”

*Congratulations also to Michael Barrett in facilities management (greenhouse) for earning his B.A. in history.*



**Four Winthrop staff members who earned their graduate degrees in May:** From left, Anna Fredericks, M.Ed. (Office of Dean, Visual & Performing Arts); Trellis Manning, M.Ed. (Social Work); Elizabeth Oswald-Sease, M.A. in history (Accreditation and Accountability); and Rob Dellibovi, M.B.A. (Admissions). We are so proud of you. *Photo by Judy Longshaw.*

Want to know more about the *Employee Education Assistance Program*? You can earn your degree, or just take classes of interest. Tuition is waived for up to six hours of credit per semester.



# EAT stuff

## Faculty and Staff

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# MEETING stuff

## UPCOMING STAFF CONFERENCE MEETINGS

Tuesday, June 16 @ 2 p.m. Whitton Auditorium

Tuesday, July 21 @ 2 p.m. Whitton Auditorium



A place to share our Winthrop “family” milestones. Births, deaths, hellos, good-byes, marriages and more. Please submit your information to [jones@winthrop.edu](mailto:jones@winthrop.edu) for publication in the newsletter.

## WELCOME TO WINTHROP



### Welcome to our new hires for May:

*Front:* CHRIS PRINCE, Police Officer, Campus Police  
*Middle:* DAYNA JOHNSTON, HR  
KAYLA DAVIS, Administrative Asst., Political Science  
MELANIE McFADDEN, ACC Operations Manager,  
Computing and Information Technology  
*Back:* SHANNON SMITH, HR  
SHARON JOHNSON, Telecommunicator, Campus Police

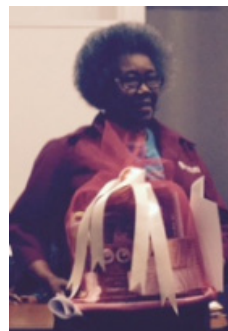
## STAFF EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

### MARY BLACK

Custodian: Tillman Hall  
Facilities Management

**How many years have you been at Winthrop?** Since 2009  
**What makes Winthrop University special to you?** I love seeing all the new faces, the new students, and our military members in uniform coming through the halls.

**What drives you every day to make a difference at Winthrop?** Everyone needs a smiling face, maybe a hug, and encouraging words to get through the day. My job is not a hard job (unless I get behind), but we all have bad days. I try to help people through those days by giving them a little special attention, just like my mother taught me to do.



A nominator said: “Mary works diligently and cheerfully every day to ensure the main floor of Tillman is clean and ready to wow visitors on their entrance to the building. She is a cheerful force of nature that captures everyone in her happiness. She greets coworkers, students, and guests with joy, enthusiasm, and a beautiful smile. She has

been heard many times welcoming, assisting, and providing directions to all.”

If you would like to nominate a fellow staff colleague, *e-mail T.J. Hyatt*; or go online to *complete this form*.

## CONGRATULATORY stuff

### The following staff members who were nominated for Staff Employee of the Month in April:

Amanda McGarity, World Languages and Cultures; Ann Biggerstaff,

Dean’s Office: Business Administration; Barb Yeager, University College; Brenda Watson, Facilities Mgmt.; Carol Schlabach, English; Cheryl Hingle, University College; Chris Rousseau, Facilities Mgmt.; Darlene Ledwell, Design; Debbie McKenzie, Health Services; Dia Hablutzl, Rex Institute for Educational Renewal and Partnership; Dorothy Barber, Dacus Library; Emily Tobin, Residence Life; Everett Hutto, Athletics; Jack Allen, Campus Police; Janell Stevens, TRiO; Janna Rothschild,

Student Affairs; Kimberly Byrd, University Relations; Michele Smith, Academic Affairs/Office of the President; Miranda Knight, Student Affairs; Nancy Jackson, Business Administration; Nancy White, Dacus Library; Nicole Ford, Health Services; Pansy Phillips, Curriculum and Pedagogy; Patrice Bruneau, Computing and Information Technology; Ramona Kundl, Theatre and Dance; Susan Gunderson, Office of the VP: Institutional Advancement; Terry Sexton, Purchasing



## CONDOLENCES

Ron Burgin, who worked for the greenhouse in facilities management from 1999-2011, passed away in May. For more about his life and family, *please read here*. There will be a memorial service for him in the Little Chapel on Saturday, July 11 (time TBD).

## COMMUNITY stuff

The Winthrop United Way Committee accepted a Circle of Honor Award last month at the York County United Way luncheon. We were one of 38 groups that had outstanding commitment to the organization reaching its \$1.4 million goal this year. Pictured are: Judy Longshaw, University Relations; Kareema Gray, Social Work; and Joanna Harris, Athletics.



# getting to know



Each month, Staff Stuff will be featuring some fellow staff members, in an effort to help us get to know each other. This month, we are introducing you to our three new staff assembly members.

## JOHNATHAN BRABSON-ATHLETICS

Johnathan has worked at Winthrop for eight years. He is the associate head women's soccer coach. He attended Maryville College in Tennessee and earned his degree in business administration. He was the head women's soccer coach at Queens University of Charlotte for four years before coming to Winthrop. His free time consists of playing golf and watching lots of sports. He also enjoys watching his two kids play sports as well. He likes working at Winthrop because it offers him the ability to do something that he loves (coach soccer).



## JANELL STEVENS-ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Janell has been at Winthrop for eight years. In August, she will be the assistant director for TRiO Student Support Services. She is a part of a team that works together to give first generation, low income, and disabled students the necessary resources to be successful in college. Their job is to help them persist and graduate! She earned her B.S. in psychology from South Carolina State University in 2000 and earned her M.Ed. from Winthrop in 2011. Her hobbies include cooking and spending as much time with her husband and three girls as much as she can. The best thing about working at Winthrop is everyone's willingness to help! "The people at Winthrop are a loving and caring group of folks!"



## KARA TRAVERSE-ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Kara has been at Winthrop for four years. She works in Records and Registration coordinating the records side of undergraduate graduation and works with students using veterans educational benefits (GI Bill). She has a B.A. and an M.S. in sociology, and has worked previously for a non-profit scholarship foundation in California and in financial aid at York Tech. Most of her off-hours are spent with her husband, her seven-year-old son, and five-year-old daughter. They like going for hikes, going to the movies, and just exploring the area. They love sports and follow Clemson football, Angels baseball and the Chelsea Blues in soccer. They also like to attend WU athletic events when they get the chance. She started running in 2012, and since then has completed 6 half marathons and 4 triathlons. The best thing about working at Winthrop is definitely the people. "I am fortunate to work with many wonderful people that make my job so much easier."



## COMMITTEE stuff

YOU can participate in the mission and work of our staff conference by getting involved in a committee. Choose from: Media and Communication, Professional Development, Campus and Community Involvement, Recognition, or Elections and Nominations. Get to know colleagues and join in the effort to make our staff community the best it can be. More information on our [committee page here](#).

## STAFF ASSEMBLY stuff

The Staff Assembly serves as an advisory group that provides staff with a forum for communication and community and provides a voice in matters of importance and concern to staff. The group offers opportunities for staff to support one another, participate as a group in community outreach and engagement, and make recommendations to the university's president and the administration in support of staff needs and the university's mission.

Please e-mail [staffassembly@winthrop.edu](mailto:staffassembly@winthrop.edu) with any questions or suggestions you may have. If you would prefer the option of contacting the assembly anonymously, please complete the online Staff Feedback Form via a non-Winthrop computer.

[www.winthrop.edu/staff](http://www.winthrop.edu/staff)

**Story or content ideas? Contact a member of the Media & Communications Committee:**

Ann Barrett, T.J. Carney, Chrissy Catoe, Maria D'Agostino, Tracy Holbert, Judy Longshaw, Shelley Jones, Arenette McNeil