



Volume 4 Issue 5  
December 2017

## Faculty/Staff Holiday Reception



*President Dan Mahony and First Lady Laura Mahony  
invite you to a holiday celebration in honor of  
Winthrop University Faculty and Staff.*

Wednesday, December 6, 2017  
2 - 4 p.m.

President's House

Who Are WU?

New Hires

Pink Out Day

Staff Member of  
the Month

Finding Big  
Stuff

Spotlight on Staff  
Assembly

Holiday Events

# Who Are We?

## The College of Arts and Sciences part 2 of 2

*The College of Arts and Sciences is home to 14 departments and is the largest academic college on campus. Get to know some of the staff members who keep it running smoothly below.*

**Jayne Keefer** is the administrative specialist for the Department of World Languages and Cultures. She joined Winthrop in August of this year shortly after graduating from Queens University of Charlotte in May. She received her B.A. in communications and has returned to work on her M.A. From Blythewood, South Carolina, Jayme recently moved to Rock Hill with her fiancé, Daniel, who is a Winthrop alum and current graduate assistant in the Department of Physical Education, Sport and Human Performance. Before coming to Winthrop, Jayme worked at a public relations and branding firm in Charlotte, and served as the assistant student director of the Knight Scholars Program at Queens. When she's not working or doing schoolwork, Jayme likes to read, root for the Pittsburgh Steelers, and scour Pinterest for more ideas for her wedding in October 2018.

**Linda Mason** is the administrative specialist in the Department of Psychology. She has been at Winthrop for 17 years, working in several different departments. She will retire in June 2018, and looks forward to spending more time with her three grandchildren and pursuing volunteer opportunities.

**Summersby Okey '13, '15**, graduated from Winthrop in 2013 with a Bachelor of Arts in political science and philosophy and religious studies. During her time at Winthrop, she interned in the Office of the Senior Advisor at the Democratic National Convention Committee in Charlotte, North Carolina. After finishing her B.A., Summersby once again attended Winthrop and graduated in May 2015 with a Master of Liberal Arts

degree with a concentration in political and civic engagement. Summersby worked for two years as the program assistant for the Departments of Philosophy and Religious Studies, and Sociology and Anthropology at Winthrop University, before transitioning to her new role as the operations manager of the Social and Behavioral Research Lab. Summersby also teaches HMXP-102 - The Human Experience: Who Am I? and provides administrative support to the John C. West Forum on Politics and Policy, the new Center for Civic Learning, and Model United Nations. Summersby serves on the board of a local homeless shelter, Family Promise of York County, and is also a member of the City of Rock Hill Community Relations Council. She lives in Rock Hill with her husband, Jordan Hamrick, their dog, two cats, and four chickens.

**Alexis Roy** is from Greenville, South Carolina and came to Rock Hill in 2001 to attend Winthrop. She graduated with a B.A. in 2005, the day after she got married. She previously worked in management for 10 years, and has come to Winthrop as the administrative assistant for the Department of Sociology, Criminology, and Anthropology, and the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies. She enjoys spending time with her husband, Rob, and her two daughters, Olivia and Lillian. She also spends time acting in films, and completing reading challenges of 35 books per year.

**Kat Wilson** has been the administrative coordinator for the College of Arts and Sciences since July 2013. She has a bachelor's degree in journalism and Spanish from Western Kentucky University, and a master's degree in linguistics from the University of South Carolina. She typically spends her free time reading, copy editing, playing with cats, or renovating her house.

# New Hires

**Welcome to the newest members of our Winthrop Family:**  
Hope Johnson, outreach and reference librarian, Dacus Library; Sarah Kelly, recruiter and communications coordinator, Graduate School.

# Pink Out Day



Staff from Student Financial Services, the Cashiers Office, and the Controllers Office.



Thea Barnes, records coordinator, Records and Registration; Mary Black, custodial worker, Facilities Management; and Tammy Gillett, data specialist, Records and Registration.



Linda O'Connor, assistant manager, Student Financial Services; and Brittany Pigford, archivist, Louise Pettus Archives.



Debi Barber, associate vice president, Admissions; Kelly Shelton, housing specialist, The Inn at Winthrop; and Amanda James, assistant to the vice president, Office of Access and Enrollment.



College of Visual and Performing Arts Deans Office.



Health and Counseling Services

# Staff Alumni Luncheon



Lori Tuttle, executive director for alumni relations and annual giving, Alumni Relations; Lisa Benjamin, budget manager, Alumni Relations; Alicia Hyatt, alumni engagement coordinator, Alumni Relations; Brittany Neely, campus relations coordinator, Alumni Relations; and Ryan Sheehan, director of data and communications, Alumni Relations, with Big Stuff.



Jeremy Wynder, director of video services, Athletics, with Big Stuff.



Whitney Hough, director of communications and community engagement, College of Visual and Performing Arts, with Big Stuff.

# SPOTLIGHT on Staff Assembly

This month's spotlight is on Jessica Cassel, *procurement manager, Procurement and Risk Management*

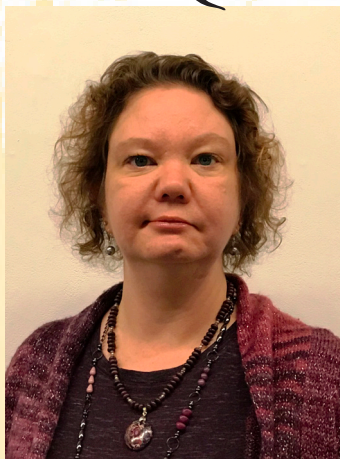


Jessica (Peppel) Cassel was born in Columbiana, Ohio and moved with her mother and sister several times, including to Florida and Georgia, before landing in the place where she was raised: Central, South Carolina. Jessica started working for Information Technology Services at Winthrop in 2000 while working towards her B.A. in art and minor in English, which she received in 2005. In 2006, Jessica was hired as the assistant to the associate vice president of information technology, then, in 2014, as the assistant director of facilities design. In 2016, she was hired as a procurement manager for Procurement and Risk Management. Jessica is a certified procurement officer and project manager.

Jessica married Andrew Cassel in 2016 and has two children, Grace, 9, and Mason, 1. She is a die-hard Clemson fan, and loves to garden and spend time with her children and family.

# WU Milestones

# TOYS FOR HAPPINESS



Congratulations to Jamilyn Larsen, *executive assistant to the dean, College of Visual and Performing Arts*; and Craig Sauvigne, *system administrator, Computing and Information Technology* who are both celebrating their 20th year of employment at Winthrop!



Toys for Happiness is a United Way program that distributes toys to approximately 1,800 children in Rock Hill who would not have Christmas otherwise. They need volunteers throughout the month of December to assist with sorting and packing bags, distributing toys, and assisting parents with getting items to their cars. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Elizabeth Starnes at [estarnes@unitedwayofyc.org](mailto:estarnes@unitedwayofyc.org). For more information, you can also contact Kelly McGinnis at x6231 or [mcginnisk@winthrop.edu](mailto:mcginnisk@winthrop.edu).



# STAFF MEMBER of the month

Dawn Sayer, *assistant director of assignments and administration, Residence Life.*



**How many years have you been at Winthrop?** Three and a half years.

**What makes Winthrop special to you?** I genuinely love all of the Residence Life people I work with, from the main office staff, residence learning coordinators, resident assistants, and desk assistants, all the way to the students that I work with.

**What drives you every day to make such a difference?** I like working for equality in housing - that is what drives me. And the "Tetris-like puzzle" that goes along with making room assignments.

**What is your favorite part of Winthrop?** It is a smaller institution with a hometown feel, but located close to Charlotte, with all that a city has to offer.

**What do you do in your spare time? Hobbies?** I like reading, video games, and going to Comic Conventions. My office is a nerd heaven.

**If you had to tell an incoming student one thing about Winthrop, what would it be?** Make the most of your time here: get involved, go abroad. This is your opportunity - don't waste it!

# S.M.O.T.M. nominees



from left to right: Jonathan Thomas, *systems programmer, Computing and Information Technology*; Linda O'Connor, *assistant manager, Student Financial Services*; Dawn Sayer, *assistant director of assignments and administration, Residence Life*; and Alexis Roy, *administrative assistant, Department of Sociology, Criminology, and Anthropology*.

not pictured: Donald Davis, *zone manager, Facilities Management*; Sharda Nelson, *assistant coordinator, Office of Accessibility*; Wes Wiles, *lieutenant, Campus Police*; and Dennis Wolfe, *groundskeeper, Facilities Management*.

# SPOTLIGHT on Service



When Susan Sauvigne, *administrative specialist, College of Visual and Performing Arts*, learned that Luis Garcia, *technology services technician, Computing and Information Technology*, had family in Puerto Rico who were without power and had very limited access to food and water following Hurricane Maria, she knew she had to do something to help. Without saying anything to Luis, Susan reached out to Rachel Glover, *administrative coordinator, Computing and Information Technology*, and together they contacted others in the IT Department to collect donations for Luis' family. Within a few days, they had raised over \$550. They used this money towards the supplies that the family needed the most: food that didn't require a stove or microwave to eat, toiletries, household supplies, a hand-crank/solar radio, and even a few toys for a young cousin and treats for the family dog. In the end, four boxes were sent to help out this family in need. Luis was moved to learn of his coworkers' thoughtfulness and generosity.

# WU gives back



This year's food drive was a huge success. Together, we collected an astounding 5, 216 pounds of food for Project Hope. Thank you to everyone who participated!



April Hershey, *assistant to the dean, Graduate School*; Laura Foster, *program director, volunteer and community service, Center for Career and Civic Engagement*; and Liz McNelly, *lead preschool teacher, MacFeat Early Childhood Laboratory School* fighting hunger at the 40th annual York County CROP walk.

# Finding Big Stuff



Can you find Big Stuff? Each issue of Staff Stuff has the illustration to the left of our beloved mascot, Big Stuff, hidden somewhere throughout the pages. If you find Big Stuff, send an e-mail to [staffstuff@winthrop.edu](mailto:staffstuff@winthrop.edu) and tell us where he is. Those who find Big Stuff will be entered into a drawing to win a prize. Congratulations to last month's winner: Nicole Chisari, *communications coordinator, University Communications and Marketing*.

# Holiday Events



Pieces from the Annual Pottery Sale on December 1.



Andy Johnston, *assistant director, Louise Pettus Archives*, with his wife, Carrie, and their children, Logan, 5, and Riley, 10 months, during the Pictures with Santa event on November 30.



Linda O'Connor, *assistant manager, Student Financial Services*, with Santa!



Student artists at the Annual Pottery Sale on December 1.



The ChristmasVille Rockettes at the tree lighting on December 1.



Dana Bruneau, *program coordinator, Winthrop First Year Experience, University College*, with students on the Winthrop Float from the Christmas parade.



President Dan Mahony leading the countdown to the lighting of the Christmas tree with the Winthrop Chorale, choirs, and chamber singers.

# Printing Services Holiday Help

It's the most wonderful time of the year, but also the most hectic! Let Printing Services help you by taking care of your holiday cards, family newsletters, or party invites. They can even help with unique gifts like printing poster-sized photos of your loved ones, a special family recipe book and more! With more than 110 years of experience in the printing industry, the Printing Services staff have the expertise to make your projects (and, by extension, you!) look fantastic. Creating beautiful pieces for fellow staff is one of their favorite things! E-mail [printingservices@winthrop.edu](mailto:printingservices@winthrop.edu) or call 803/323-2221 to discuss your project and receive a custom quote for your job.

# Staff Assembly

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.



*back, from left to right: Kaye Burks, benefits administrator, Human Resources, Employee Diversity and Wellness; Amanda Hackney, assistant to the dean, College of Arts and Sciences; Lori Tuttle, executive director of alumni relations and annual giving, Alumni Relations; Kirk McSwain, assistant to the chief of staff, Office of the President; Alicia Marstall, director, DiGiorgio Campus Center; Susan Sauvigne, administrative specialist, College of Visual and Performing Arts; Becky Best, groundskeeper supervisor, Facilities Management.*

*front: Jessica Cassel, procurement manager, Procurement and Risk Management; Jackie Concodora, director of health and counseling services, Health Services; Maria D'Agostino, associate registrar, Records and Registration; Nicole Chisari, communications coordinator, Office of University Communications and Marketing; Kelly McGinnis, administrative specialist, Athletics; Julia Fockler, financial aid counselor, Office of Financial Aid.*

*not pictured: Penny Cotter, administrative specialist, Athletics; Wes Love, project manager, Facilities Management.*

## Web Stuff

We want to connect with you! Join our Staff Conference Facebook group for updates throughout the month, or check out the newly redesigned Staff Conference web page at [www.winthrop.edu/staff](http://www.winthrop.edu/staff)



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

Kara Cauthen, Penny Cotter, Maria D'Agostino, Tracy Holbert, Whitney Hough, Judy Longshaw, Kelly McGinnis, Summersby Okey, Kat Wilson.