



Who Are WU?

New Hires

Staff Conference Highlights

Staff Accessibility Advocate

Finding Big Stuff

Spotlight on Staff Assembly

Milestones

## Winthrop's new look



Faculty, staff, and students gathered in the DiGiorgio Campus Center for the unveiling on February 22.



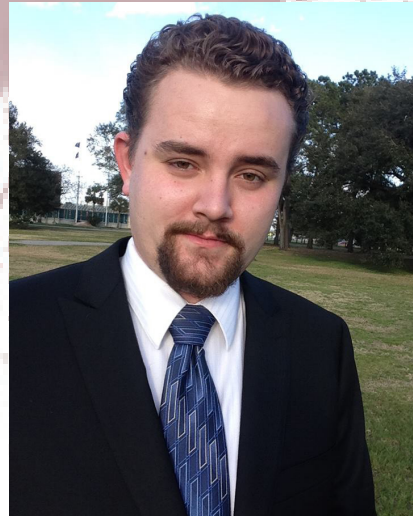
Winthrop's new logo appears across campus.



Brittany Pigford, *archivist, Louise Pettus Archives*; and Linda O'Connor, *assistant manager, Student Financial Services*; take a photo in front of the new logo during the unveiling event.



# SPOTLIGHT on Staff Assembly



This month's spotlight is on **Kirk McSwain**,  
*assistant to the chief of staff, Office of the President.*

Kirk McSwain has been part of Winthrop since September of 2016. He attended the College of Charleston, where he studied political science and philosophy. He is now working on his Master of Liberal Arts degree in political and civic engagement here at Winthrop. Originally from Lake Wylie, South Carolina, he currently lives in Rock Hill and serves on the Rock Hill Community Relations Council and the York County Council on Aging. In his free time, he enjoys playing pool, disc golf, and volunteering.

## Eagle Club Auction

Penny Cotter, *administrative specialist, Athletics*, had the opportunity to travel to Daytona, Florida and go behind the scenes of the Daytona 500 in February. She and her husband, Jim, bid on this vacation package at last year's Eagle Club Auction with two friends and won. They were able to visit the Daytona 500 archives, sit in a drivers' meeting, watch activity in the Daytona 500 Club and the Rolex 24 Lounge, and take this photo with 1st place pole winner Alex Bowman, and 2nd place pole winner Denny Hamlin. She said it was a fantastic experience for anyone who enjoys NASCAR, and that she looks forward to seeing the adventures, trips, and other unique options available at this year's auction!



The 27th Annual Eagle Club Scholarship Auction will be on Saturday, April 14, 2018. For more information, contact Taryn Moreno at [morenot@winthrop.edu](mailto:morenot@winthrop.edu).

## 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: Christopher North, *webfocus programmer, Accreditation and Accountability*.

# Accessibility Advocate of the month

by: Tina Vires, *program director, Office of Accessibility*

In Spring 2017, the Office of Accessibility (OA) was planning for the inaugural SE Regional Association on Higher Ed and Disabilities (AHEAD) Conference, to be hosted at Winthrop in May 2017. The theme was Social Justice, which readily morphed into the Social Justice League, after DC Comics "Justice League." For promotion, my husband found some great 3' Batman figures on auction. At the same time, and after months of brainstorming ways to increase disability awareness and improve rapport between OA and faculty, OA initiated a Faculty Accessibility Advocate of the Month Award. While OA does not believe people with disabilities need a superhero to come in and rescue them, we do feel that anyone who stands up for the rights of others is indeed a superhero. The Faculty Award began in January 2017. Although OA already benefits from a strong relationship with staff, by Fall 2017, we decided so many staff are strong advocates for others that they needed and deserved their own award. The first Staff Accessibility Advocate of the Month was awarded to Dawn Sayer at the Staff Conference in November 2017. Succeeding recipients were Jackie Concodora, Miranda Knight, and most recently Beverly Holbrook.



**Beverly Holbrook**, *victim's assistance counselor, Counseling Services.*

OA maintains a list of individuals who have gone above and beyond to advocate for and to accommodate individuals with disabilities. This list is created from observation, student reports, and comments from other faculty/staff. At its monthly meeting, OA team members review the list, discuss advocacy efforts, and vote for the previous month's recipient. Additionally, OA is initiating an Accessibility Advocate of the Year Award. This recipient will be chosen from the previous year's monthly recipients and will receive a small, but heart-felt award.

Further, OA is establishing a Foundation Fund, Access Matters, for the purpose of providing discretionary funding for the Office of Accessibility, including but not limited to: promoting awareness and inclusivity, reducing stigma, and providing creative efforts for access to otherwise qualified constituents with disabilities; recognition of faculty and staff who contribute to these areas; assistive technology; relevant professional development; and/or scholarship support for students with disabilities. Anyone interested in contributing to Access Matters may send a gift to the Winthrop Foundation, denoting Access Matters, or may set up payroll deduction, via the [Payroll Deduction Form](#). Employees may split their donations via various funds, if desired.

Disability Rights ARE Civil Rights and, as such, are recognized as part of the diversity of humanity. We are thankful for all those who promote diversity inclusion at Winthrop!



# Who Are WU?

## University College part 1 of 2

University College is home to many of the programs that help define the Winthrop Experience. The staff here coordinate work with both academic and student affairs, and across all disciplines on campus. From the First-Year Experience for students to the Teaching & Learning Center for employees and everything in between, University College has something for everyone. Meet some of the staff who keep it running smoothly below!

**Ann Barrett** is the assistant to Dean Gloria Jones and earned her Bachelor of Science in business from the University of Florida in Gainesville – Go Gators! Her background prior to Winthrop includes application programming, desktop support, technical documentation, and corporate training. She also spent four years as a programmer analyst in Accreditation, Accountability, and Academic Services prior to joining the staff of University College in July 2016. Ann was born in Clearwater, Florida and enjoys our beautiful seasons here in Rock Hill. In her spare time, she enjoys gardening, baking, and going for long walks with her high-school sweetheart – her husband, Ken. The other love of her life, her son Ben, was recently admitted to Winthrop.

**Ashley Burnside** is the associate director/data coordinator of the Academic Success Center (ASC). In this role, she oversees the peer tutoring program, which serves up to 800 tutor-tutee pairs each semester through recurring, appointment-based sessions every week. To support the program, Ashley selects, trains, and supervises 175+ peer tutors annually. In addition to her work with the peer tutoring program, Ashley provides academic counseling, needs assessment, and other personalized academic support services to students. She also manages the ASC's records and scheduling systems to ensure accurate reporting. Prior to her work in the ASC, Ashley worked with Winthrop's Teaching Excellence and Achievement (TEA) Program. She is a proud Winthrop alumna, having received both a B.A. in political science and M.A. in teaching. Ashley holds an M.A. in international studies from the University of South Carolina as well. When not in the ASC, Ashley works on her Ed.D. in higher education management at the University of Georgia and tries to satisfy her incurable wanderlust.

**Shawntae Burton** earned her Bachelor of Arts and master's degree in education at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio. She has served low-income, first generation, and students with documented learning disabilities through TRiO programs for more than six years. Shawntae enjoys building authentic relationships through frequent and intentional conversation.

**Rose Gray** is the program director for the TRiO Student Support Services program. She joined the Winthrop community in 2005, moving from her home state of New York. Rose has an M.A. in counselor education and an M.S. in criminal justice. She has worked in TRiO programs for the past 23 years and is passionate about TRiO and providing low-income and first-generation students with opportunities for success. When not at Winthrop, she is a busy single mom to Lily. She enjoys traveling, reading, and sewing/quilting. During the school-year, you can find her schlepping her daughter around to marching band practices, competitions, fundraising, and serving on the Booster Board at Fort Mill High School.

**Jasmine Howze** is the academic coach in the Academic Success Center (ASC). In this role, she works with students to help them develop skills that are necessary for academic success like study skills, time management skills, test taking strategies, etc. She also oversees the A.C.E. Peer Academic Coaching program. Jasmine started in the position in June of 2017, after completing her Master's of Education in counseling and development – clinical mental health from Winthrop University in May of 2017. When she isn't working, she enjoys finding good shows to binge watch on Netflix and trying out new restaurants.

**Leah Kendall** is the director of the Office of the First Year Experience in University College. In this role, she oversees the administration and curriculum development of the ACAD course as well as initiatives that impact the academic success, retention, and engagement of our first-year students. She is a graduate from the University of North Carolina-Charlotte with a degree in mass communications and an emphasis in public relations and journalism. She earned her master's degree in higher education from the University of South Carolina. Her areas of interest focus on student development in the first college year.

**LeAnn Lowery** has a master's degree in linguistics with a concentration in TESOL (Teaching English as a Second or Other Language) from the University of South Carolina. While at Winthrop University for the last seven years, she has been employed as the International Student Tutor to support the academic success and acculturation process of our international student population. In addition, she has been the Global Engagement Coordinator who has developed programming, such as Casual Fridays and the Global Friends Conversation Partner Program, to increase cross-cultural engagement between American and international students on campus.

# WU Milestones



The Welcome to Winthrop group of new staff for the spring 2018 session with President Dan Mahony and Debra Boyd, provost and executive vice president, Academic Affairs.



Lori Tuttle, executive director of alumni relations and annual giving, Alumni Relations, celebrated her daughter Mallory's 2nd birthday on February 15!

# New Hires

**Welcome to the newest members of our Winthrop Family:**  
Brittany Cromedy, benefits administrator, Human Resources, Employee Diversity, and Wellness; Wanda Ebright, associate dean and director of graduate studies, College of Visual and Performing Arts; Angel Figueroa, police officer, Campus Police; Sherisa Livingston, assistant volleyball coach, Athletics; Justice Mitchell, police officer, Campus Police; Justin Oates, vice president and chief financial officer, Finance and Business; Laura White, budget analyst and facilities manager, College of Education; and Logan Zegilla, groundskeeper, Facilities Management.

# Walk 2018

## Staff Suggestion:

Consider using the Charity Miles app! It's a good way to track one's miles while also supporting a charity (they have a pretty good list of ones you can choose from). There's an ad in the app every time you log a walk, and the money from those advertisements is what gets donated to the charities based on the number of miles that app users log. The app is free, and available for both iPhones and Androids.



Send your photos, suggestions, and motivational tips to [cauthenk@winthrop.edu](mailto:cauthenk@winthrop.edu) to be featured in a future newsletter!



# Staff Conference Highlights

## January

- Debra Boyd, *provost and executive vice president, Academic Affairs*; addressed a staff question regarding the types of sensitivity and/or leadership training that Winthrop's executive officers participate in.
- Dr. Boyd also explained how decisions are made regarding what areas of campus most urgently require updates or repairs each year. If anyone is aware of an issue that isn't being addressed, it should be brought to the attention of the Department Chair in that area so that Facilities Management can be informed.
- Ken Scoggins, *chief, Campus Police*; spoke about his vision for Winthrop's Police Department moving forward, including a focus on staffing and diversity, pursuing accreditation, having more visibility on campus, and working diligently for all of us on campus.
- Jack DeRochi, *dean, Graduate School*; and Katie Dykhuis, *director of graduate enrollment, Graduate School*; spoke about Winthrop's four new 100% online graduate degree programs. These programs will help grow enrollment, increase retention, and generate revenue. Classes will begin this fall, and are open to eligible employees through the EEAP.
- Grant Scurry, *assistant dean of students and director of the West Center, Recreational Services*; and Brittany Moore, *assistant director of fitness and aquatics, Recreational Services*; spoke about the benefits of West Center memberships, what the membership fees are used for, and various health and fitness programs available to staff for 2018.
- The Elections and Nominations Committee is looking for members! Contact Becky Best for information.
- The Professional Development Committee has scheduled the next Professional Development seminar for June 27-28. More information will be coming.
- The Campus and Community Involvement Committee will be organizing another food drive this semester.

## 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.

## February

For more details, view the Staff Conference Meeting Minutes available on the [Staff Conference website](#).

- President Mahony answered staff questions. He explained why staff are required to make up snow day hours; discussed the employee turnover rate, how it compares to other universities, the possible causes, and efforts to retain staff; spoke about the employee satisfaction survey confidentiality and how results will be released; and explained that it is not possible for Winthrop to offer leave for volunteering during work hours.
- Ken Scoggins, *chief, Campus Police*; discussed the issue of students crossing Oakland Avenue without using the crosswalks, and efforts to make our campus safer for pedestrians.
- Lisa Cowart, *vice president, Human Resources, Employee Diversity, and Wellness*; explained that it is not possible for the timesheets to auto-fill on holidays. She also explained how timesheets work for Facilities Management employees who may not have access to their own computer station, and confirmed that the greenhouse employees have an office with the tools they need.
- Jill Stuckey, *director of publications and printing, University Communications and Marketing*; provided an explanation for why the campus maps are organized the way they are and why a 10 pt font size was chosen.
- Noreen Gaubatz, *director of assessment, Accreditation and Accountability*; discussed the importance of the NSSE survey for students and asked staff to help by encouraging students to participate.
- A new standing committee was announced. The Staff Feedback Committee will be tasked with following up on staff questions and updating staff at future meetings. Anyone who would like to join should contact Kirk McSwain.
- The Elections and Nominations Committee will be working to fill the vacancy on Staff Assembly after Jessica Cassel's departure.
- The Recognition Committee is combining January/February nominations for Staff Member of the Month.

## 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, Whitney Hough, Judy Longshaw, Kelly McGinnis, Summersby Okey, Kat Wilson.