



Contents

Meet Your New Chair!

New Hires

Who Are WU?

Staff Member of the Month

WU Milestones

Spotlight on Staff Assembly

Finding Big Stuff

Please Join Us
for the
Staff Appreciation Lunch

OCT 17 2017	THOMSON CAFE <hr/> FREE LUNCH	ALL STAFF 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
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Staff Lunch!

We hope to see you there.

STAFF MEMBER of the month

Willie Aiken, *laboratory chemist, Chemistry, Physics, and Geology.*



How many years have you been at Winthrop? Ten years

What makes Winthrop special to you? As I reminisce over my life, I can see the handwork of God. He enabled me to obtain a degree from Winthrop and the necessary experiences on formal jobs to obtain my current position in the Chemistry/Physics/Geology

Department. It was special to be able to come back “home to Winthrop” In fact, this is what I told some of my former co-workers... “Home bound to Winthrop University.”

What drives you every day to make such a difference?

First of all, I am a child of the “most high” God. So, I always put forth my best because I know whom I represent. Then, it is God’s Spirit who enables me to get-up, move, and operate.

For you see, God is my source and it is Him whom I desire to please. Therefore, this desire is what drives me daily!

What is your favorite part of Winthrop? The people!

What do you do in your spare time? Hobbies? In my spare time, I have been fortunate enough to experience that unspeakable joy and to share the love of Christ! This joy is an experience that I cannot explain. Out-of-obedience unto the Lord, I compel man to come to Christ. In return, the smiles that I have seen are priceless. Sharing the love of Christ is unmatched. As far as hobbies, I enjoy walking and running in the West Center.

If you had to tell an incoming student one thing about Winthrop, what would it be?

“Winthrop is a land of opportunities.... so put God first and seize the moment.” Taking advantage of the opportunities at Winthrop can allow you to obtain a great wealth of knowledge and experience. Such opportunities are research, having one-on-one instruction from awesome professors, being able to travel, and present on various topics. You will be well prepared for higher education or employment when you leave Winthrop.

S.M.O.T.M. nominees

Ann Biggerstaff, *administrative coordinator I, Office of the Dean of Business Administration*; Chris Holoman, *administrative specialist, Office of the Dean of Business Administration*; Chris LeGrand, *assistant director of residential services, Residence Life*; Dennis Wolfe, *groundskeeper, Facilities Management*; Jackie Concodora, *director, Health and Counseling Services*; Jill Stout Grossoehme, *instructional designer, Accreditation and Accountability*; Karen Miller, *budget analyst, facilities manager, College of Education*; Kyle Stegall, *heavy equipment operator, Facilities Management*; Patricia Riley, *assistant director of student activities, Student Affairs*; Ralph Trey Woodring, *library technical assistant, Dacus Library*; Summersby Okey-Hamrick, *operations manager, Social & Behavioral Research Lab*; Willie Aiken [winner], *laboratory chemist, Chemistry, Physics, and Geology.*

New Hires

Welcome to the newest members of our Winthrop Family:

Leeland Clark, *administrative assistant, Social Work*; Holly Cook, *designer, Office of Communications and Marketing*; Tiffany Cowden, *administrative assistant, Interdisciplinary Studies*; Foster Hays, *research & technology assistant, Institute for Educational Renewal Partnership*; Natalie Hozak, *assistant to the athletic director, Athletics*; Jessica Hudgens, *counselor, Counseling Services*; Dysean Jackson, *programmer analyst, Computing and Information Technology*; Amber Jolly, *assistant director of student activities and fraternity and sorority affairs, Student Affairs*; Darlene Ledwell, *administrative assistant, Office of VP University Advancement*; David Lewis, *police officer, Campus Police*; Kathleen Park, *administrative assistant, Institute for Educational Renewal Partnership*; Alexis Roy, *administrative assistant, Philosophy and Religious Studies, Sociology and Anthropology*; Alexander Skelley, *athletic trainer, Athletics*; Martha Smith, *collections & descriptions librarian, Dacus Library*; Vernon Sprouse, *police officer, Campus Police*; Justin Temple, *telecom engineer, Computing and Information Technology.*

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 and tell us where he is. Those who find Big Stuff will be entered into a drawing to win a prize.

Who Are We?

CVPA Dean's Office

The College of Visual and Performing Arts Dean's Office is housed in McLaurin Hall and works to make sure that CVPA runs smoothly. The Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) Project is also housed under the CVPA Dean's Office. The Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) Project provides leadership to achieve quality, comprehensive arts education (dance, music, media arts, theatre, visual arts and creative writing) for all students in South Carolina. The ABC Project is cooperatively directed by the South Carolina Arts Commission, the South Carolina Department of Education and the College of Visual and Performing Arts at Winthrop University.

Karen Derksen is currently the director of Winthrop University Galleries (WUG), an instructor in the Department of Design at Winthrop and is looking forward to an additional role in January as the interim director of the Arts Administration programs for CVPA. As curator, her most recent exhibitions include; Man+Land+Water, creating a visual dialog examining global water issues (Winthrop University), Between the Springmaid Sheets, examining Springmaid advertising from the 1950s (Winthrop University Galleries, South Carolina Museum of Art, Columbia, South Carolina); Material Reflex, exploring Sonya Clark's symbolic and innovative interpretation of material as a reflection of personal and cultural identity (Winthrop University Galleries, Craft and Folk Art Museum, Los Angeles, California). Karen enjoys working on community collaborative projects including the public art installation of Carla Stetson's The Red Line and Kathy Bruce's Ann Evolving in downtown Rock Hill, MUSE Fest, Pecha Kucha Charlotte, the DNC2012 and the Artist and Civic Engagement Projects (ACE) at Winthrop. She spent summers growing up at a lake in northern Canada called Waskesiu. She says her best summer job was as an archeological illustrator on digs in Greece.

Christine Fisher is the director of the Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) Project. She grew up in Asheboro, North Carolina. She earned a B.A. degree in Music Education from UNC Pembroke, and an M.A. degree in Music Education from the University of South Carolina (1980). Prior to the ABC Project, she was a music teacher for 24 years. At the ABC Project, she works with schools and districts across the state to straighten arts education and arts integration programs. Selected as the South Carolina Teacher of the Year in 1998, she is the only music teacher awarded the honor in the program's 52-year history. She is also a 2012 recipient of the Medal of Honor in the Arts. She has been married to Tim for 30 years, and they were initially set up by band students/Boy Scouts who insisted they go on blind date.

Anna Fredericks is the director of student services in the College of Visual and Performing Arts. She has been at Winthrop for eight years. In this role, Anna helps students, faculty and staff navigate the "Winthrop way." She assists students from Orientation to graduation and guides students who may have questions about courses, transfer credits, and other academic matters. She graduated from Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois, and completed her master's degree in Counseling from Winthrop in 2015. She is a self-proclaimed "Disney freak," enjoys spending time with her four boys, and is a fan of Chicago Cubs baseball.

Whitney Hough is the director of communications and community engagement. In this role, Whitney plans the marketing and publicizes arts events for the Winthrop University Galleries and the Departments of Design, Fine Arts, Theatre and Dance, and Music. Additionally, she works to generate and encourage projects and activities that involve active collaborations between the College of Visual and Performing Arts and local, state and regional cultural, civic, and business communities. Whitney is a 2011 graduate of Winthrop with a degree in integrated marketing communication and is currently enrolled in the masters of arts administration program. Whitney is a foodie and loves to try new restaurants. She also enjoys spending time with her husband, Nick, and three fur children, Susie, Anabelle, and Jack.

Jamilyn Larsen is the executive assistant to the dean. This October, she celebrates 20 years as an employee of Winthrop University. In her role, she supports the dean's office, Winthrop University Galleries, and other areas as needed. She also helped launch the CreatorSpace in 2016 and helps maintain inventory and manage student workers for the space. She graduated from Winthrop in 1995 with a B.A. in English, and again in 2010 with a M.A. in arts administration. She is currently working on a master's degree in social work to pursue a second career to combat poverty and homelessness through not-for-profit work. She volunteers on the weekends at Renew Our Community, a local day respite shelter. She enjoys knitting and recently visited the largest yarn store in Texas. She is mother to Doodle the dapple dachshund (you can follow him on Facebook!).

Susan Sauvigne has been at Winthrop University since 2000. She is an administrative specialist for the Office of Student Services as well as support for the Dean's Office. Susan is also an elected representative on the Staff Assembly. Susan is a Rock Hill native and has been married to Craig Sauvigne, system administrator, Computing and Information Technology, for three years this September. Part of a self-described "WU family," her father worked at Winthrop and both her sister and daughter graduated from Winthrop as well as her husband, Craig. In her free time, she enjoys spending time outside, working in the yard and geocaching, as well as traveling to Charleston and the Outer Banks.

Cheryl Taylor, business operations manager for the Arts in Basic Curriculum Project, is originally from Charleston, West Virginia. She moved to Rock Hill, South Carolina, in June 1998 and began working with the ABC Project in August of that same year. She and her husband have been married for 35 years and have two grown married sons. She is very active in her church and in Bible Study Fellowship where she serves as the Substitute Teaching Leader of the Rock Hill Evening Women's Class. Cheryl enjoys reading, camping and hiking. She also loves using and educating others on the benefits of Young Living essential oil. Cheryl stays quite busy in the ABC Project office managing the day-to-day business operations.

Lacrosse Stuff



WINTHROP UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S LACROSSE PROGRAM INTRODUCES A SERIES OF FREE LACROSSE CLINICS FOR GIRLS

2ND-11TH GRADE
October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Winthrop University, Athletic Complex, Rock Hill, South Carolina

Questions: Call Kayla Minner | 716/946-5811 | minnerk@winthrop.edu

SPOTLIGHT on Staff Assembly

This month's spotlight is on **Amanda Hackney**, *assistant to the dean, College of Arts and Sciences*.



Amanda Hackney (left) and her daughter, Sophie.

Amanda Hackney was born and raised in eastern Kentucky. She moved to the Rock Hill area with her family in 2001, and got her B.A. from Winthrop in 2008. She started working at Winthrop in the same year, first as the administrative assistant for the Department of Political Science and the Model UN program, and then as the administrative coordinator for the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) Dean's office. She is currently the CAS Dean's budget assistant, and she was elected to Staff Assembly this year to represent the Academic Affairs division.

Outside of Winthrop, Amanda enjoys spending time with her boyfriend, Tommy, and her daughter, Sophie, rooting for the UK basketball team and the Charlotte Checkers hockey team, and attending music and beer festivals all over the Southeast. She also plays trivia once a week, and spends many of her weekends gardening, cooking, and canning. She hopes to eventually work up to running a multi-acre homestead or hobby farm.

Meet Your New Chair!

Maria G. D'Agostino, *associate registrar*, Records and Registration
Chair, Winthrop University Staff Conference
2017-2018



This is my 17th year as a staff member here at Winthrop University. Currently, I work in the Office of Records & Registration as the associate registrar. I first started here as the veteran affairs benefits/graduation coordinator and it was in this position where I discovered my passion for working

with students. In addition to working in the Office of Records & Registration over the years, I also taught a couple introductory courses in the Department of Political Science, served as a mentor for the REACH program, taught ACAD, and most recently I've had the privilege and deep pleasure to be a part of the Staff Assembly. Such experiences have allowed me to meet and work with some truly amazing people, and I know firsthand that we all share a common commitment to

serving our students.

I earned my bachelor's degree in political science with an emphasis in public management from the University of Maryland Baltimore County and a Master of Public Administration (MPA) in government management from Pace University in New York.

I love spending time with my husband Rick and two daughters Katerina (13) and Gabriella (9). I also enjoy cooking, reading, volunteering in the community, swimming and traveling.

Winthrop University's Staff Conference provides an opportunity for staff to come together, to offer ideas, to form a unity and to feel like we are part of something larger than our own departments.

As Chair of Staff Conference I wish to spread the feeling of campus community among my peers, help provide activities that enrich staff experiences, and voice staff ideas and concerns. I am honored to have the opportunity to work with you and through Staff Conference continue to help make Winthrop University the best place to work!

WU Milestones



Winthrop housed 58 students and seven staff members from the College of Charleston (C of C) who fled the effects of Hurricane Irma. Laura Johnson, *associate director of the West Center*, right, was one of several Winthrop staff members who helped make their four-day stay in the Richardson Ballroom as comfortable as possible. She is pictured here with Melantha Ardrey, *C of C director of residence life*.



back, from left to right: Jessica Martin, *residential learning coordinator, Residence Life*; Amanda Hackney, *assistant to the dean, College of Arts and Sciences*; Rachel Glover, *IT administrative coordinator, Computing and Information Technology*; April Hershey, *assistant to the dean, The Graduate School*; Jan Patterson, *program specialist, CERRA South Carolina*.
front: Pam Varraso, *administrative specialist, Student Affairs*.
Volunteering at Winthrop Night at Food Truck Friday on September 15.



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 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

Story or content ideas? Contact a member of the Media & Communications Committee: Maria D'Agostino, Penny Cotter, Kara Cauthen, Tracy Holbert, Whitney Hough, Judy Longshaw, Kelly McGinnis, Summersby Okey, Kat Wilson.