

STAFF stuff

Volume 5 Issue 3
October 2018

Staff Appreciation lunch at Thomson!



Milestones

New Hires

Spotlight on Staff
Assembly

Staff Accessibility
Advocate

Staff Conference
Highlights

Staff Member of
the Month

Who are WU?

STAFF MEMBER of the month

Howard Seidler, *interim director, Residence Life.*



How many years have you been at Winthrop?

I have been at Winthrop University 22 years.

What drives you to make such a difference?

I love working on strategies and systems that help our students achieve academic success and improve their student experience.

What is your favorite part of Winthrop?

I have two answers for this. First, I love the fact that even though we've experienced a considerable amount of transition here in the last several years, it still feels like Winthrop University. The culture of caring about one another and the culture of collaboration with colleagues across campus transcends individual staff changes that occur. Secondly, my favorite part of the campus is McBryde. There is a certain indescribable feeling I get when I walk into that room and I love seeing the expressions on newcomers and visitors' faces when I have the opportunity to show that beautiful room.

What do you do in your spare time? Hobbies?

I am an avid swimmer and enjoy participating in spinning/indoor cycling classes. I also enjoy music of all types, being outdoors, camping and bike riding.

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

There are an amazing amount of great resources at Winthrop University to help you be successful. Use them.

Nominations for Staff Member of the Month are due at the end of each month and can be submitted below!

<https://www.winthrop.edu/staff/employeeofmonth/>

S.M.O.T.M. nominees



from left to right: Elizabeth Oswald-Sease, *procurement officer, Purchasing Office;* Thomas Cornelius, *instructional designer, Accreditation, Accountability, and Academic Services;* and Howard Seidler, *interim director, Residence Life.*

not pictured: Nikki Ford, *office manager, Health Services;* Vernadine Patterson, *custodian, Facilities Management;* and Jonathan Thomas, *computer programmer, Computing & Information Technology.*

New Hires

Welcome to the newest members of our Winthrop Family:

Carol Adams, *live text technical assistant, Richard W. Riley College of Education*

April Barnette, *custodial worker, Facilities Management*

Whitney Campbell, *campus visit and events coordinator, Access and Enrollment Management*

Taylor Degen, *set-up specialist, Facilities Management*

Piyush Dehru, *information systems analyst, Finance and Business Affairs*

Richard Gimbl, *associate vice president for institutional advancement, University Advancement*

Christopher Girgenti, *library specialist, Ida Jane Dacus Library*

Terri Haynes, *benefits administrator, Human Resources*

Austin Hill, *assistant baseball coach, Athletics*

Nancy Johnson, *administrative specialist, Office of the Dean of Business Administration*

Annette McElhaney, *custodial worker, Facilities Management*

Michael Szeman, *cultural events and degree progress coordinator, Records and Registration*

Savanah Webster, *assistant softball coach, Athletics*

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. Congratulations to last month's winner: Cindy Reynolds, *administrative assistant, Facilities Management.*

Who Are We?

The Greenhouse Crew



The greenhouse is probably best known for growing the beautiful poinsettias used during winter graduation. The poinsettias arrive in mid-August, and spend 6-8 weeks in 3" containers before being moved to the larger 6" containers where they are babied until graduation. The greenhouse crew works to keep them fertilized and free of insects while they grow. The geraniums used for summer graduation go through a similar process.

In addition, the greenhouse crew grows many varieties of flowers and greenery for use around campus. They provide indoor plants such as ferns, ficus trees, peperomia plants, and several varieties of colorful coleus (pictured here) for meetings and events. The hanging baskets around campus are also grown by the greenhouse. The greenhouses are located behind the track and golf course, and the crew is always ready to help with your plant questions!

Arthur Beck, *greenhouse crewmember*, came to Winthrop three years ago after retiring from a metal workshop. He works part-time in the greenhouse now. In his spare time, he likes to camp and fish.

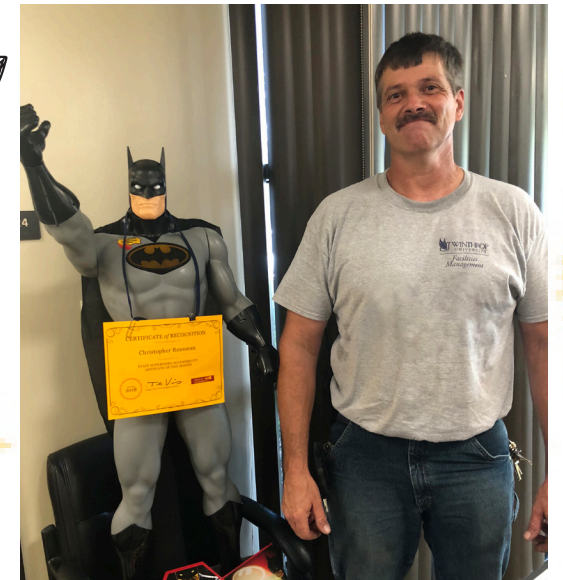
Becky Best, *groundskeeper supervisor*, has been at Winthrop for 13 years. She started at the farm, taking care of the Olde Stone House, tennis courts, and surrounding area. She then transferred to the main campus and became a grounds crew leader. She is currently responsible for the President's House groundskeeping and the flower containers on campus, as well as greenhouse duties. Outside of work, she enjoys camping with her horses, and she is an avid campfire cook.

Rhett Herron, *greenhouse supervisor*, has been at Winthrop for 24 years. He started out as a groundskeeper at the President's House, worked on the flower beds and containers on campus, and was a grounds maintenance supervisor before moving to the greenhouse and eventually becoming the supervisor there. In his spare time, Rhett likes to golf, hunt, and fish, and is active at his church.

Accessibility Advocate of the month

Chris Rousseau

director of operations, Facilities Management



STUDENT ALUMNI COUNCIL PRESENTS: GHOST TOURS

MCBRYDE

Tuesday October 30th

TOURS FROM 6:00PM - 10:00PM

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/winthrop-university-ghost-tours-tickets-50081116969>

Winthrop Tennis fundraiser!

Both the women's and men's tennis teams were undefeated last year in the Big South Conference during the regular season. And they are expected to do well again this year.

Support this golden era of Winthrop tennis at an Oct. 24 fundraiser at the Grapevine wine bar, located in the Riverwalk area in Rock Hill. Hours are 5 to 10 p.m. Buy a drink, talk to a tennis team member and give a generous tip to go to the teams.



The women's team won its 20th Big South Conference tournament title in program history in the spring and will lose just one senior from last year's roster. Winthrop players already show up in the national rankings. In the Oracle/ITA Collegiate Tennis Division I Women's Preseason National Rankings, seniors Megan Kauffman and Lauren Proctor are ranked ninth in doubles. In singles, Proctor is at No. 26 and Alisa Soloveva enters the national rankings for the first time ever at No. 100.

Meanwhile on the men's side, Senior Diego Quiroz will compete in the prequalifying singles draw at the ITA All-American Championships in Tulsa, Okla., held Sept. 29-Oct. 29 at the University of Tulsa. He will be joined by partner junior Gabriel Dias for competition in the qualifying doubles draw.

Both teams will participate in tournaments this fall and begin their seasons in the spring.

Staff Conference Highlights

- Staff questions concerned putting the answers on the webpage after Staff Conference, the possibility of a raise this year, worries about budget cuts or furloughs, the student payroll adjustment form process, difficulties with Banner 9, and turning the AC on earlier in the mornings and covering absences for custodial staff.
- New staff members Shelia Burkhalter, *vice president, Student Affairs*, and Adrienne McCormick, *dean, College of Arts and Sciences*, introduced themselves and spoke about their goals at Winthrop.
- Eduardo Prieto, *vice president, Access and Enrollment Management*, spoke about enrollment trends and new initiatives to boost enrollment.

More information can be found in the minutes on our webpage.

WU Milestones



Say hello to our newest Eagle! Viola Beth Olliver was born August 27. Congratulations to Julika Blankenship, *head women's lacrosse coach, Athletics!*



Julia Fockler, *financial aid counselor, Financial Aid*; Laura Johnson, *associate director of West Center operations, Student Affairs*; and Wes Love, *project manager, Facilities Management*, serving ice cream at the Staff Conference Ice Cream Social on September 18.



Tina Vires, *program director, Office of Accessibility*, crewed for her husband, Carey Stoneking, at the North Coast 24 Hour Ultramarathon National Championship Race on September 22, where he earned the National Championship title for his age group!



Health and Counseling Services testing out the Chill Out booth planned for this month's Fresh Check Day.

SPOTLIGHT

on Staff Assembly

Cheryl Gomez

office coordinator, Office of Human Resources

Cheryl has been employed at Winthrop for nine years. As the HR office coordinator, she is the first voice or face you will come into contact with when you have concerns or questions regarding your employment. She and her husband have been married for 33 years, and have lived in the Fort Mill/Lake Wylie area for 32 of those years. She enjoys spending all her free time with her 26-year-old son, daughter-in-law, granddaughter, and her two grandpups, Zi and Annie.



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.

2017-2018 Annual Report

Click here to view the Staff Conference
2017-2018 Annual Report.



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