

# April 2023

# Staff Stuff

A Staff Conference Publication | Volume 9, Issue 8

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The next Staff Conference meeting will be at 2 p.m. in Owens G02 on Apr. 14. All staff are encouraged to attend!



Missed the last meeting? View the presentation on the [Staff Conference webpage](#).

## Come-See-Me Festival on Campus

The Rock Hill Come See Me Festival will be "Dancing into Spring" starting with a Parade in downtown Rock Hill on April 13. There are several events this year taking place at Winthrop Lake. And don't forget, you can take the free electric [My Ride](#) bus from campus to nearly all of the events around Rock Hill.

Events at Winthrop Lake:

Saturday April 15

[Road Races](#) - 5K and 10K

[Gourmet Gardens](#) - food trucks and live music

[Cornhole Throwdown](#) - cornhole competition

[Hops at the Park](#) - craft beer, food, and music

Friday April 21

[Moonlight Jazz & Blues](#) - live music

[Anything but Butts Barbeque Cook-Off](#)

Saturday April 22

[Tailgate Party & Fireworks](#)

For more information about the festival and a list of all the events, check out the

[Come-See-Me Festival website](#).



## Mark Your Calendars

### Inauguration of President Serna

**April 14**

Please join us for the Presidential Inauguration Ceremony at Winthrop Coliseum. More Information on page 4.

### Strategic Planning

**April 19-28\***

Our strategic planning partners, Berkley Research Group, will be on campus to gather info. [Read more about the process on the website.](#)

*\*tentative dates, subject to change*

### Commencement

**May 4 & 6**

Graduate Commencement will be May 4 at 7pm, Undergraduate Commencement will be May 6th at 10am and 3pm in Winthrop Coliseum.



# Brian Good

## custodial superintendent

### Facilities Management

**How many years have you been at Winthrop?**

I've worked at Winthrop for 15 years.

**What makes Winthrop special to you?**

I graduated from Winthrop in 2000 and came back to work here in 2008.

**What drives you to make such a difference?**

I always want to give my best effort to whatever I do.

**What is your favorite part of Winthrop?**

Winthrop is a family and is a very friendly environment.

**What do you do in your spare time? Hobbies?**

I love baseball. I'm an assistant coach for my former high school.

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

You can develop closer relationships with other students and staff since Winthrop is not a large university.

# Nominees

## for Staff Member of the Month

**Kara Cauthen** – Web Developer, University Communications & Marketing

**Kathie Park** – Budget Analyst/Facilities Manager, College of Education Dean's Office

Have an awesome coworker? Use the [nomination form](#) to submit their name for Staff Member of the Month.



## Finding

### Big Stuff

Can you find Big Stuff? Each issue of Staff Stuff has the illustration above of our beloved mascot, Big Stuff, hidden somewhere throughout the pages.

If you find him, 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: **Amy Sharpe**, executive assistant, Vice President of Student Affairs.

Staff Member of the Month

# Get Ready for WUCycle 2023!

Declutter Your Life and Get Free Stuff!

Friday, April 21, 12:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

Visit the Withers Gym (also known as the S.A.C., corner of Eden Terrace & Charlotte Ave.) to “shop” for any items you may need.

If you have gently used household goods that you would like to drop off, you may do that at any time during the day. There is NO requirement to bring something in order to take something. YES—IT’S ALL FREE. TAKE WHAT YOU NEED.

All community members are welcome to participate. Leftover items will be packed up at 5:00p.m. and donated to Goodwill Industries.



## Graduate Education Week

April 24 - 27

Graduate Education Week celebrates the importance of graduate education through events that showcase the impact of graduate degrees on careers and communities. You can see a full list of the events and register for them at the [Graduate School website](#).

One of the perks that Winthrop offers staff is the ability to take courses, including Graduate programs, for free under the Employee Educational Assistance Program (EEAP). See the [HR website](#) for more information on eligibility for EEAP.

Questions about Graduate Education Week? Contact us at [gradschool@winthrop.edu](mailto:gradschool@winthrop.edu) or 803/323-2204.

## Staff Conference Highlights

Staff Conference has two more meetings this academic year! Please join us for our next meeting on **April 21 at 10am** in Owens G02 (Note the date and time change to accommodate inauguration events the prior week). The final meeting of the year will be on **May 19**.



Missed the last meeting? View the presentation on the [Staff Conference webpage](#).

## Spotlight on Staff Assembly



Lisa Benjamin currently works as the business operations manager for the Athletics Department. She graduated in 1985 from Winthrop with a B.S. in business administration, management. Lisa has been employed by Winthrop since October of 2003.

**Lisa Benjamin**  
**Business Operations Manager**  
**Athletics**

# Inauguration of Winthrop's President Edward Serna



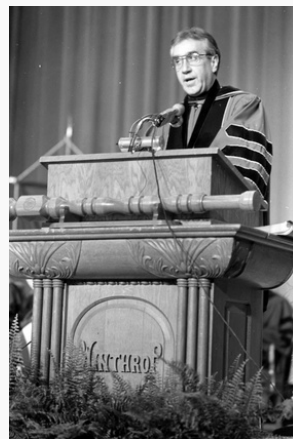
President Serna on his first day of work at Winthrop University.

Winthrop will celebrate a new day in its history when President Edward A. Serna '02 is installed as the institution's 12th president during an April 14 investiture ceremony.

The special celebratory event will begin at 11 a.m. in the Winthrop Coliseum. The ceremony's keynote speaker is a former colleague of Serna's from the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith. Dr. Paul Beran, who was chancellor of the Arkansas institution, will talk on Serna's rise to leadership and his academic philosophy.

Following the ceremony, the activities will move to the main campus for a 12:30 p.m. picnic on the Campus Green. The community is encouraged to share a meal and then explore the campus and attend many of the scheduled activities, including the SOURCE research conference, a dance showcase, a film viewing and other events.

[Read more and visit the inauguration website.](#)



## WU Presidents through History

Dr. Serna will be Winthrop's 12th President. Take a look at all the Presidents in Winthrop's history on the [Presidential History Website.](#)

Photos clockwise from top left:  
Charles Davis walking to his Inauguration with Faculty and Staff in 1960; Anthony DiGiorgio giving his Inauguration speech in 1990; Students walking to the Inauguration of Henry Sims in 1945; Martha Piper during her Inauguration ceremony in 1986.



**53**  
**YEARS**  
1970-2023



# EARTH DAY

**Scholars Walk** 10 am - 2 pm **Tuesday April 11 2023**



Winthrop University Office of Sustainability

## Winthrop Earth Day 2023

Winthrop's Office of Sustainability will recognize Earth Day 2023 on Tuesday, April 11, from 10 am until 2 pm. We hope you will spend some time with us!

- Bring your plastics bags to be recycled for the 'Bags to Benches' program!
- Information will be available about some basics: recycling, energy, and water.
- There will be a display highlighting the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- We will have trees available for free, courtesy of Bartlett Tree Experts.
- There will be a Free Table. Bring items you don't want that are in good condition and take items you can use.
- Human Nutrition students will be featuring an interactive food sustainability activity.
- Representatives will be sharing information about the Rock Hill Educational Community Garden, Rock Hill Clean & Green, Rock Hill's My Ride Bus, Keep York County Beautiful, Nation Ford Land Trust, and Goodwill Industries.

Faculty, staff and students: contact us if you want a table to share your project or sustainability topic. If you would like to volunteer for this event, please sign up [HERE](#) today!

**A Winthrop Welcome**  
**to our newest hires!**

**Amy Bailey**, Administrative Coordinator, Office of the President  
**Steven Balcaitis**, HVAC-R Worker, Facilities Management

**Thomas Dunham**, Deputy Chief, Campus Police  
**LaPorcha Ellick**, Assistant Director for Frat/Sor Affairs, Dean of Students

**Hugh Greenwood**, Associate Director of User Support, Computing and Info Technology

**Lauren Macino**, Administrative Operations Coordinator, Records and Registration

**Alexa Maddox**, Veterans Affairs and Readmission Coordinator, Records and Registration

# April is Volunteer Month

April recognizes all those who give their time and energy during National Volunteer Month and Winthrop has no shortage of volunteer opportunities. Here are a few that you can get involved in!

## Volunteer at WUCycle

WUCycle needs volunteers on Thursday, April 20 from 4 – 5 pm and Friday April 21 from 8 am – 5 pm. WUCycle! will take place in the Student Activity Center (SAC) behind Withers.

[Register to volunteer on Eagle Impact](#)

Thursday Volunteers:

- Help move items from storage to the SAC

Friday Volunteers:

- Count attendance, take pictures.
- Accept items at the site and sort onto appropriate tables or areas.
- Help carry items to cars if someone needs assistance.
- Clean up and break-down at the end of the day.
- Prepare remaining items left over for donation.

## Race to Zero Waste

Tuesday, April 4 from 3 – 4 pm

The Campus Race to Zero Waste is a friendly competition and benchmarking tool for college and university recycling programs to promote waste reduction activities in their campus communities. Further details will be emailed to volunteers prior to the date of service. If you are not available at 3:00 or if there are no times available, please email us at [johnsonc@winthrop.edu](mailto:johnsonc@winthrop.edu).

[Register to volunteer on Eagle Impact](#)

## Spruce up for Spring: Campus Litter Clean-Up

Spring is near and it's time to 'spruce' up the City and Winthrop University! Because litter is an ongoing problem in our community and on Winthrop's campus, we must stay vigilant in our efforts to clean it up and improve the appearance of our communities and campus. Spruce of Spring is sponsored by the City of Rock Hill and Rock Hill Clean and Green.

This litter clean-up is open to STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF. [More Information and Sign up here!](#)

## Thank You to the Chili Cook-Off Volunteers

The WU family really showed up for the College Chili Cook-Off at Bethel Shelter. This event was organized by the Campus & Community Involvement Committee. The shelter and its men congratulated and sent since thanks to Winthrop University and our staff for the wonderful meal and generosity.

To learn a little more about the Bethel Shelter: In 2021, Bethel Men's Shelter expanded its mission and began operations at the Bethel Day Shelter, a daytime shelter for men and women located at Pathways Community Center in Rock Hill. The Day Shelter operates 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. every day, and provides laundry services, showers and restroom facilities, lockers, respite, and partners with other agencies to connect clients to needed services. Anyone in the community can [sign up to volunteer](#), as an individual or group.

## For next month...

**Do you have any stories from previous Inaugurations at Winthrop?**

Send your submissions to [staffstuff@winthrop.edu](mailto:staffstuff@winthrop.edu) to be included in the next issue.