

February 2023

Staff Stuff

A Staff Conference Publication | Volume 9, Issue 6

In this issue

Celebrating 30 Years with AAMS

Mark Your Calendars

Staff Member of the Month

Staff Conference Highlights

MLK Day of Service

Welcome New Hires

Retirement Parties

Spring Staff Conference meetings will be at 2 p.m. in Owens G02 on Feb. 10, Apr. 14, and May 19. All staff are encouraged to attend!



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

Celebrating 30 Years with AAMS

The African American Studies Program has partnered with the Louise Pettus Archives & Special Collections to develop an exhibit entitled, “Hurrying the Spirit,” to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the African American Studies Program and to honor the late Dr. Dorothy Perry Thompson (pictured below), former Winthrop University professor of English and founder of the AAMS program.

They are hosting an unveiling and reception on Thursday, February 9 from 4-6 p.m. in the Pettus Archives. There will be a short program at the beginning, but the rest of the evening will flow as a drop-in event. The exhibit will be open until May 5.



Mark Your Calendars

Staff Conference

Feb. 10

The first Staff Conference meeting of 2023 will take place on February 10 at 2 p.m. in Owens G02. See you there!

Black History Month

February

Spend some extra time this month to learn about local Black History with [Dacus Library](#). Remember, Educate, Celebrate

Hurrying the Spirit

Feb. 9

Honoring the Legacy of Dr. Dorothy Perry Thompson & Thirty Years of African American Studies at Winthrop University. The reception will be held 4-6 p.m.



Nominees

for Staff Member of the Month

David Hensley – Textbook Manager, Winthrop Bookstore

Stefan Wunderlich – Lab Manager, Biology

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

Heather Carter

administrative specialist

Psychology

How many years have you been at Winthrop?

I have been with Winthrop University since July 2018.

What makes Winthrop special to you?

Winthrop is special to me due to the faculty, students, and staff that make working here feel like a second family.

What drives you to make such a difference?

At the end of the day, if I can make someone's day a little less stressful just by listening to what they are going through or a little less confusing by helping them to find the answer or just simply helping to put a smile on someone's face. Then it is a great day!

What is your favorite part of Winthrop?

My favorite part about Winthrop is the staff, faculty, and students I work with.

What do you do in your spare time? Hobbies?

LOL!! Spare time! LOL!! Now that is funny. There is no spare time when you work full time, are a wife and mother, and are a current graduate student. So there is not a lot of spare time. But when I have spare time, I like to go to the beach or on an adventure with my family.

I enjoy reading books, baking, watching college sports, and working on craft projects.

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

I would advise incoming students to learn what available resources are and use them. Also, get to know your faculty and staff. As a staff member, I see firsthand how faculty want the best for the students they are teaching, and as a staff member, we want to make the days while you are here at Winthrop feel like your home away from home.

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 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: **Francine Reedy**, registered nurse, Center for Student Wellness.

Congratulations!

Fall Staff Graduates

- John Kroft, readmission coordinator in Records and Registration, earned a Master of Business Administration.
- Jessica Van Cleave, enrollment marketing coordinator in Admissions, earned a Master of Business Administration.



Jessica Van Cleave
with President Serna
at the December
2022 Graduation

Staff Conference Highlights

Staff Conference did not meet in January, but will resume meetings on February 10, 2023. Meetings are at 2:00 p.m. in Owens G02. Make sure to join us then!

Spring Semester Staff Conference Meetings
February 10
April 14
May 19



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

Spotlight on Staff Assembly



Julie moved into Roddey Hall in July 1998 and never left. Like Elliott and E.T., Julie and Roddey have become one. Okay no, I probably shouldn't brag about living in Roddey. I don't want to make everyone jealous.

Originally from Tonawanda, New York, Julie Schrader moved to South Carolina and Winthrop University in 1998. As the assistant director of residence life for staff development, she assists with selection and training of staff and about 1,000 other things.

She and her husband, Andy, are easy to find because they are always outside walking Winthrop's most obnoxious dog, Muttley Tatertot Schrader. When not walking The Mutt, Julie likes to paint, create bad graphic design and go thrifting.

Julie Schrader
Assistant Director
Residence Life

MLK Day of Service

Winthrop University celebrated the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with a week of service projects sponsored by student organizations to encourage their members and others to embrace a culture of service. MLK Day of Service has been a Winthrop tradition since 2000, when students and faculty voted to cancel classes to make room for events to be held in honor of the late King's birthday. Our MLK Day of Service is a beloved event, in which we average 300 student and faculty/staff volunteers.

The service projects included sustainability efforts, hygiene kit assembling, food donation sorting, clothing sorting, craft projects and more. Student organizations sponsoring projects this year are S.O.A.R., Council of Student Leaders, Alpha Phi Alpha, WU Association of Black Journalists, Gamma Beta Phi, WU Society for Human Resource Management, Winthrop Ambassadors, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Blueprints.

Thank you to all the staff who participated in these projects to commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and support our campus.



Chris Johnson working with volunteers on campus sustainability during the MLK Day of Service

A Winthrop Welcome to our newest hires!

Caleb Belton, police officer, campus police

Tianna Harrell, technical service coordinator and night manager, Dean of Students

Kevin Hughes, vice president, university advancement

Jennifer Knapmeyer, accounting tech, student financial services

Evelina Kopt, financial aid counselor, financial aid

Veronica Rector, diversity and inclusion coordinator and staff counselor, counseling services

Ryan Smoot, assistant baseball coach, athletics

Blackboard Ultra Day

The Office of Online Learning and Anthology hosted a special event on February 2nd to prepare for the soft launch of the Blackboard Ultra Course Experience this summer. The new Blackboard Ultra offers a simplified and consistent layout, greater accessibility, and a lot of new ways to track student participation.

At the event, members of the Ultra Squad (Winthrop early adopters) shared their experiences facilitating an Ultra Experience course and faculty had the opportunity to speak with Blackboard representatives from Anthology.

The Ultra Course Experience can also be used for orientations, organizations, clubs, and training. If you would like more information about Ultra, please contact the Office of Online Learning at blackboard@winthrop.edu.



Dot Barber with the Dacus Library and Louis Pettus Archives Staff at her Retirement Party

Jane Rawls' Retirement Party



Retirement Parties

We are sad to say goodbye but love to celebrate all the amazing achievements of our long-time staff with Retirement parties around campus. Colleagues celebrated the retirements of Dot Barber, executive support specialist in Dacus Library, and Jane Rawls, administrative specialist in the college of education, in January.

For next month...

Tell us what you're looking forward to in 2023!

Send your submissions to staffstuff@winthrop.edu to be included in the next issue.