1 4
August

# **SMCM Staff News**

Feeling stressed?
Check out these staff recommended movies for guaranteed grins.
Remember, laughter is good for you!

Kathryn Tedford & Chip Jackson—Animal House

Kelley Hernandez—Three Amigos

Anthony Guzman— Ghostbusters

Angie Draheim— 50 First Dates

Dan Schell— Wedding Crashers

Jeb Barber & Robert Marks—Forest Gump

Derek Young-Zoolander

Jackie Wright—Big

Kathy Lewin—Spaceballs

JJ Walker—Young Frankenstein

Nairem Moran—Despicable Me

Sara Renn—Goonies

Rob Sloan—Princess Bride

Kathy Cheek & Stephanie Somerville—Home Alone

Marsha Wilcox—Pitch Perfect

Cordell Carter—Stepbrothers

Philip Fenwick—Life

**Brad Newkirk—Major League** 

Alan Lutton—Blazing Saddles



Kriante Plater took advantage of the opportunity to have our wonderful health center staff check her blood pressure at the 7th Annual Wellness Fair on July 16. Did you? The Wellness Committee made sure there were plenty of other things to do at the fair for the 90 people that attended, including activities (e.g., Zumba, chair yoga, reflexology massages, riding #milesforJamie, skin cancer screenings, a cooking demo), prize raffles, a wealth of information from 25-30 vendors, and free fruit smoothies. Don't miss out on the next fair in summer 2015 and be sure to mind your wellness in the meantime!

The Staff Senate is beginning its fourth year of service for the staff at SMCM. Area and at-large elections were completed in June and new senators began their terms on July 1. A full list of the FY15 Staff Senators can be found on page 4 of this newsletter. We look forward to another great year serving you. As you prepare to charge into the new academic year, here are some things to keep in mind:

- We will host three Staff Association meetings in FY15; the first meeting is scheduled for Sept. 10, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m. in St. Mary's Hall. The purpose of Staff Association Meetings is for the Staff Senate to let the staff know about upcoming senate events and initiatives and to give staff the opportunity, without prior arrangement, to bring up items for discussion or voice suggestions about what they would like to see the senate get more involved in.
- The St. Mary's Mentors program is well underway with the first matching of mentees to mentors having taken place in early August. We know there are several other employees who would also make wonderful mentors for mentees and there is still time to sign up for the program—just visit our website for the application!
- The Social Connections committee is working with students and members of the tri-county MD alumnae chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority to clean up Mattapany Rd - please see page 4 for details. The committee is looking for additional ways to get more involved within our local community and, of course, will be planning fun events; stay tuned.
- Thank you to the staff members who participated in our senate evaluation survey. Committees are currently reviewing your feedback to decide what suggestions can be implemented.
- Remember, all our staff senate meetings are open to everyone and we encourage staff to attend. See page 4 for dates.
- · Keep Calm and Have Fun!



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# Hats Off to Our Incredible Staff!

Did you know...



Sergeant Keenan Enoch was named Officer of the Year at SMCM for 2013. On May 13, during National Police Week, he was honored at the St. Mary's County Government sponsored 14th Annual Law **Enforcement Appreciation Day** at the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center. The event included a very large luncheon and awards given to all the officers selected from the different law enforcement agencies around the county. He was also honored at a dinner sponsored by the Optimist Clubs of Southern Maryland where he and the other honorees were each given a plaque.

Rick Loheed passed the US Coast Guard License exam in May. You can now call him Capt. Rick!

Mary Grube earned a MS in Accounting and Financial Management from University of Maryland University College on May 30.

Chris Burch, Emily Carter, Michael Gass, and Clayton Hartley attended the JAM (Jenzabar Annual Meeting) Conference at the National Harbor May 28-31.

Stephanie Guzzo presented her master's thesis work "The Effects of Walking on Gastrocnemius Cooling During an Ice Bag Treatment" via poster at the MATA (Maryland Athletics Trainer's Association) Annual Meeting & Symposia June 6-7.

# Staff Spotlight: Elaine Syzmkowiak



How long have you been at SMCM? I came to SMCM in 1978. I completed my bachelor's degree in biology in

1981, when I began my career working in the biology department. I'm starting my 34th year at SMCM.

Winner of the Staff

Recognition Award for July 2014

What path led you to St. Mary's? I can thank my mom for telling me about SMCM. I had never heard of it, but it just so happened that my cousin was planning to attend SMCM in the fall of 1978 and my mom suggested I check it out. All it took was a visit to campus and I was hooked. My interest was in Biology, and I could see that SMCM had a great Biology department, even back in 1978. I transferred to SMCM after com-

pleting two years at Towson State College and a stint as a beach bum in Ocean City and ski bum in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

What do you do by day? Managing logistics and the daily happenings in the biology department is a big part of what I do. Each day is different than the next, but there is always a problem to solve, from a leak in the wet lab or other types of equipment failure, to planning or troubleshooting lab protocols, or training people to work with a variety of equipment. I coordinate the Principles of Biology Laboratory and work with faculty and teaching assistants on a daily basis. Along with our lab coordinator, Tom Brewer, and a staff of student workers, we manage the lab facilities and support the faculty and students in a diverse variety of activities.

What do you do with your evenings/weekends? I enjoy being outside whenever I get the opportunity – gardening, observing nature, walking my dog Dexter, Wednesday night sailboat racing in Solomon's, and skiing in the winter. In addition, I practice and teach yoga, enjoy reading, music, contra and Irish set dancing, and I'm slowly learning Italian. I volunteer my time when I can. It's always nice to get together with friends and family.

What is your favorite off-campus lunch spot? Courtney's in Ridge, where the fish are so fresh they are still wiggling on the plate, or my house which is less than a mile from campus. (I know the chef there!)

What would colleagues be surprised to find out about you? I am very competitive when it comes to sailboat racing; I enjoy the teamwork that is required to compete successfully.

What is the most interesting/surprising job you've ever had? Well, I have been at St. Mary's so long that my most interesting experiences naturally have to do with my career here. I've been fortunate to have participated regularly over the years with study abroad - travel to Belize, and other tropical locations (including India!) with the tropical biology class. I never tire of observing unusual wildlife, meeting new and interesting people, and observing our students in what for many is their first experience interacting with a foreign culture and observing diverse biological habitats.

# **More Professional Development...Kudos!**

- Joanne Goldwater directed the 17th annual Regional Entry-Level Institute (RELI) held June 3- 5 at
  Rutgers University Newark. She is the co-founder and continues to serve as the co-director of this
  three day Institute that focuses on helping entry-level Res Life/Housing professionals develop eight
  core competencies. Dan Schell (area coordinator in Res Life) was one of 28 people selected for this
  year's Institute (out of 75 applicants).
- 34 staff members were invited to attend the Annual Professional Development Reception hosted by the Staff Senate on June 26. It included staff who took advantage of tuition remission benefits (e.g. Kent Randall took harp lessons at SMCM and Ashley Stopera studied web design via Towson University), those who participated in the Tuition Remission Program for Full-time Staff of SMCM to attend Maryland Community Colleges (e.g. Juliet Hewlett took courses to learn MS Office Programs), and those who participated in professional development opportunities hosted by the Staff Senate (e.g. FAFSA, English composition, Photoshop tutorials).

Look for more on-campus professional development opportunities to be announced this year!







# **Monthly Staff Recognition Award Winners**

### May 2014

### Stacey Goddard, office manager in admissions

As the data person, Stacey is a dedicated employee who works well in a team environment making sure the admission's application data is entered correctly. ~Nominator

#### June 2014

### Katie Guy, office associate in Montgomery Hall

Katie is always ready to lend a helping hand, even when the tasks go well beyond her job description. She stepped up to help coordinate Boyden Gallery art drop off times, handled all the art storage and collected the incoming loan paperwork. Throughout the summer she opened and closed the Gallery so visitors can view the Across the Ages alumni exhibit. ~Nominator

### July 2014

### Elaine Syzmkowiak '78, director of instructional support in biology

Elaine does an outstanding job working with student help training them into a cohesive, effective, cheerful team that is well organized and exhibits great camaraderie. She has been totally committed to the College for over 25 years through her work with the biology department. Her attention to detail and organizational skills planning the Tropical Biology trips are in line with the campus' efforts to internationalize learning opportunities for the students. Her extensive work drafting a section of the department self study report was done on a volunteer basis. In addition, she directly impacts the health and well being of students, faculty, and staff who attend her weekly yoga classes. ~Nominator

Nominate a worthy staff member today! Winners receive 5 FREE tickets to the Great Room.

Nomination forms are available in department offices and online. They are due the 3rd Friday of every month to Beth Byrd (eabyrd@smcm.edu or Alumni House).

## **Campus NEWs**

The new campus center lot offers a ton of parking (designated areas for faculty & staff parking are closest to Margaret Brent Hall) and the public areas in Queen Anne, Dorchester, Caroline, and Prince George's Halls got a nice, much-needed facelift over the summer. Check them out!

The fountain in the Garden of Remembrance has been redone thanks to the generosity of an alum donor! In addition to a new pedestal and bowl, the fountain also now sports a slate border. Stop by and enjoy the view!

# Welcome to St. Mary's!

Academic Services	F.J. Talley, Director of the DeSousa Brent Scholars Program
Admissions	Michael J. Cummings, Director of Admissions
	Amanda L. Jengo '14, Admissions Counselor
	Ciara L. Willett '14, Admissions Counselor
	Kyle S. Wise '14, Admissions Counselor
Athletics and Recreation	Peter J. Krech '09, Head Women's Soccer Coach
Career Services	Caitlin A. Bailey, Academic and Career Adviser
Health Services	Deborah R. Landau, Office Associate II
Information Technology	Katherine M. Stone, Senior User Support Specialist
Planning and Facilities	Maury Z. Schlesinger, Capital Project Manager/Planner
President	Tuajuanda C. Jordan, President
Public Safety	Clinton E. Brantley, Director of Public Safety
Student Activities	Amber R. Robey, Office Associate II

# **Congratulations!**

Clayton Hartley and his wife, Dorothy, welcomed the birth of their second grandchild, Callista Mae, on June 11. She was 6lb, 7oz & 20". She is little sister to 5 year-old Tucker Clayton.



Joanne Goldwater celebrated her 19th wedding anniversary to Leon Dement, Jr. on July 21. His mom, Berta Malone, worked at SMCM 20 years ago and introduced the two and they ended up getting married seven months later!

# SMCM Staff Out & About



Denise Merican, Dana Cullison, Marsha Wilcox & Lucy Meyers enjoying a girls' night out at Wine & Design in Leonardtown.



Irene Olnick and her husband travelled to watch the Phillies take on the LA Dodgers. Even though the Phillies lost the game, she had a great time and remains a true fan.

# Having fun at the Wellness Picnic —May 30, 2014



food, good music, great colleagues, a friendly game of corn hole, and sailing.



# St. Mary's by the Numbers:



8 the number of water fountains with refillable container stations that have been installed

across campus. The Office of Planning and Facilities hopes this will reduce the number of plastic water bottles, by encouraging the use of reusable water bottles.

134 the number of pounds lost between 15 staff members during the Wellness Committee sponsored 16-week Simple Changes-Diabetes Prevention Class. Way to go, folks!

# Let Us Hear From You!

Email your suggestions, questions, or concerns to <a href="mailto:mkgrube@smcm.edu">mkgrube@smcm.edu</a>

Staff Senate AY14-15: Kyle Bishop (Student Affairs), Dana Burke (Academic Affairs), Beth Byrd (At-large), Tommy Cable; Treasurer (Business Office), Cheryl Colson (Library), Kelvin Clark (At-large), Dana Cullison (OIT), Angie Draheim; Vice President, Faye Graves (Human Resources, Steve Gregory (Planning & Facilities), Mary Grube; President, Stephanie Guzzo (Athletics), Kelley Hernandez (Advancement), Mary Johnston (Physical Plant), Kathy Lewin (Administrative Associates), Alan Lutton; Secretary (At-large), Francis Raley (Physical Plant), April Ryan (Academic Support), Dan Schell (Student Affairs), Stephanie Somerville (Physical Plant), Leslie Tucker (At-large), Adam Werblow (At-large), Marsha Wilcox (Enrollment Management)

### **Staff Senate Committees**

### **Professional Development**

Tommy Cable (chair), Kelvin Clark, Stephanie Guzzo, Alan Lutton, Kelley Hernandez, Jim McGuire, Catherine Pratson

#### **Elections**

Angie Draheim (chair), Kyle Bishop, Kelley Hernandez

#### Communications

April Ryan (Chair), Angie Draheim, Kathy Lewin, Stephanie Somerville

### **Awards & Recognition**

Beth Byrd (co-chair), Kyle Bishop, Dana Burke, Dana Cullison, Kathy Lewin, Sherrie Wooldridge

### **Bylaws**

Dan Schell (chair), Cheryl Colson, Angie Draheim, Adam Werblow

### **Social Connections**

Marsha Wilcox (chair), Dana Cullison, Faye Graves, Steve Gregory, Mary Johnston, Francis Raley, Dan Schell, Leslie Tucker

## **Staff Senate Mission Statement**

St. Mary's College of Maryland is committed to developing and recognizing the contributions of the full range of its professionals as they work toward achieving the college's mission. The St. Mary's College of Maryland staff senate shall be the official representative body of the college staff. The senate offers a voice for all staff, endeavors to enhance the day-to-day work environment, and promotes a sense of community and respect across campus by fostering open communication with the college president, senior administration, faculty, students, and the board of trustees.

# **Upcoming Events**

Staff Senate Meetings. Any staff member may attend Staff Senate meetings so mark your calendars and plan to join us! All senate meetings 10 am-12 pm in the Glendening Annex unless otherwise noted. 8/27; 9/17(Library Board Room); 10/8; 10/29; 11/19; 12/10; 1/7; 1/28 (Staff Association Mtg–St Mary's Hall); 2/18; 3/11; 4/1; 4/22; 5/13; 5/20 (Staff Association Mtg–St. Mary's Hall); 6/3; 6/24

Admissions Open Houses; Sept 6 & Oct 25

Sept 27 & 28; Family Weekend

Oct 3 @ 8:30am: Hawktoberfest Golf Tournament at Pax River Cedar Point Golf Course Oct 4 @ 8am: 16th Annual Petruccelli 5K starting at the Alumni House

Oct 25, 9:30am-12pm; staff and faculty are welcome to join students and members of the tri-county MD alumnae chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority as they clean up Mattapany Rd. (part of the adopt-a-highway program). Contact Marsha Wilcox at mlwilcox@smcm.edu if you would like to help out with this community service project.

Check out our websites: www.smcm.edu/staffsenate, https://sites.google.com/a/smcm.edu/smcm-staff-senate/home

