

SMCM Staff News

Who is your favorite couple from literature, tv, or film?

Cliff & Claire Huxtable from the Cosby show
- Kriantae Plater-Jones

Jack & Sally from the Nightmare Before Christmas
- Shelby Kalm

Bones & Booth from Bones
- Nairem Moran

Carl & Ellie Frederickson from Up - Adam Werblow

Mork & Mindy - Mary Grube

Mr. & Mrs. Smith - Kathy Lewin (*"Nothing says love like trying to assassinate each other."*)

Kermit & Miss Piggy
- April Ryan



Thanks to all who attended the Staff Association Meeting on Jan 28!

Our proposed amendments passed and will now go on to Dr. Jordan for review before bringing them to the Board of Trustees in May.

In case you haven't heard, Ross Conover was the winner in the recent election to fill an at-large senate seat vacancy. Congratulations, Ross!

If your pick wasn't voted in remember to keep them in mind for when 11 elections (8 area, 3 at-large) are conducted in May.

The Professional Development Committee wants you to know:

Trying to balance work and professional development can be quite the struggle.

Hence the need for a professional development plan. It not only helps you organize the person you are, but helps you focus on how you can be a better you. Even more important, you can brainstorm what you want from your career and in turn how you can make your job work for you. Here are some strategies to help get you started:

1. **Acknowledge what you bring to the table.** As the saying goes, "take pride in your work." And that's exactly what you should do! Make a list of all your strengths at your job, and be specific. Don't just state "organized a large project in a timely manner," rather something more descriptive and quantitative as in you raised your company revenue by 5% in one year, or tackled eight boxes of filing in an hour.
2. **Recognize there is always room for improvement.** One way to do this is to analyze your job description. Do you do the bare minimum to meet the description, or do you go beyond the duties assigned to your position? Taking this initiative gives you a starting point of where you can sharpen your skills or acquire new ones related to your career.
3. **Build that network!** Engage with others beyond the office/dept. If not for professional reasons, do it just to make a connection. But odds are if you are able to create a contact list of people associated with what you do, you may end up bouncing great ideas around that can help your organization down the road. It can be as simple as other colleagues in different departments, to LISTSERVs, seminars, and conferences.
4. **Take initiative to take on more (within reason).** By inquiring with your manager about how else you can help in the field you are exhibiting great leadership skills. These skills not only show your ability to multitask and manage, but with positive results you can boost your confidence. This boost will be the fuel to keep you motivated for personal growth. Just make sure to keep it within your realm of what you can handle.
5. **Set your goals.** Whether they are more current or long term, goals allow you to keep whatever you're trying to achieve in focus. And anytime you can grant a goal with some type of reward makes it that much better!

These tips, along with other useful tools for professional development can be found on the American Management Association© website www.amanet.org

this issue

Staff Senate News **P.1**

Staff Spotlights **P.2**

Staff Milestones & New Staff **P.3**

Staff Senate Committees **P.4**

Upcoming Events **P.4**

Marsha Wilcox, Mary Johnston, Faye Graves, and Leslie Tucker enjoying Staff Appreciation Night during the Men's & Women's Basketball games on Feb 18. Find out who named Solomon the Seahawk on page 2!



Along with Chip Jackson, the Staff Senate bid **Dana Cullison** and **Stephanie Guzzo** a fond farewell with a certificate and cupcakes on Dec 10, 2014.



SMCM
Staff
News

Hats Off to Our Incredible Staff!

Did you know...

Joanne Goldwater has been selected to serve as a faculty member for the 25th annual National Housing Training Institute in June, to be hosted at the University of GA and sponsored by the Association of College and University Housing Officers - International. She was a participant in the inaugural NHTI class of 1991 and was the first past participant asked to serve as a faculty member (in 2005). This will be her third time serving on the faculty for this prestigious, professional institute.

Tobias Wilson-Bates has two articles forthcoming: "Kingsley's Chrono-Baby: Standardized Fictions of Class Time and Classed Bodies" is forthcoming in the spring 2015 volume of Victorian Studies and "The Image of Time in David Copperfield" is forthcoming in the summer 2016 volume of The Dickens Studies Annual.

Sustainability fellow, **Shelby Kalm**, shares that the foundation for the new greenhouse at the Campus Farm has been built, and the water/electricity lines are now underground and ready to be hooked up.

Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) was honored with NADIIAA/Jostens Community Service Award: SMCM was one of the selected institutions and conferences recognized for the impressive community service projects performed by its student-athletes during the 2013-14 academic year.



Staff Spotlight: Peggy Aud, Events & Conference Coordinator



How long have you been at SMCM? Over the course of 18 or 19 years, I have been off and on the campus. I started out with the Wood company foodservice for the campus. I transitioned to Bon Appetit in 1997 when they were awarded the foodservice contract. From there I traveled to other accounts and worked or helped out, but always made my way back to St. Mary's.

What path led you to St. Mary's? Quite simply, I applied for a job and here I am today. It has been easy to stay. This campus is so beautiful, and the students, faculty and staff are extremely welcoming. Overall, this is an exceptional place to be.

What do you do by day? I work in DPC as an events and conference coordinator. My areas of expertise are in event decor and operating the Events Management System (EMS).

What do you do with your evenings/weekends? I am currently working on a double masters degree. I am pursuing Human Resource Management and a MBA. That takes up a lot of time. Otherwise I spend the time with my spouse and family.

What is your favorite off-campus lunch spot? St. James Deli is the best, and so close to campus. It's a huge hit in our office.

What would colleagues be surprised to find out about you? I own a non profit charity organization that supports the needs of children in the community and surrounding states. We have been operating since 2009 and have helped a lot of kids in our immediate area. We provide back to school backpacks which is our biggest challenge. It is surprising how many kids are in need. At the same time it is fun to go shop for the items on the school lists and pack the backpacks. I think it shows the kids that people really do care about them and their education. This also takes some of the burden off of the teachers from spending their own money on extra supplies.

What is the most interesting/surprising job you've ever had? My best job, is my charity foundation called The Drop Foundation, Inc. (description above).

Winner of the Staff Recognition Award for November 2014

Staff Spotlight: Lisa Coté, Coordinator of Orientation & Service



How long have you been at SMCM? I started contractually in March of 2013, so if you count that, then I've been here for almost two years (plus the four years I was in school!). If you don't count that, then I've been here since May of 2013, which means I've been here for about 1¾ years.

What path led you to St. Mary's? I loved my time as a student here so much, that I always hoped to come back and work for the college. The position I'm in now was actually the reason I went into Student Affairs, so I was beyond excited when I was offered the job.

What do you do by day? A little bit of everything! I work on Orientation, Service and Social Change programming, co-advising a couple clubs (Relay For Life, with Joanne Goldwater, and Habitat for Humanity, with Dan Schell), advising SafeRide, advising the Class of 2018, serving on the LGBTQ Student Services Advisory Committee, serving on a few Division of Student Affairs initiative committees, and catching up with students as they wander through the office. I've also recently agreed to be a part of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Team, and signed up to be a member of the working group concerning Civility and the Embodiment of Our Ethos, so I'm really excited to see what will come from these two new groups.

What do you do with your evenings/weekends? A good portion of the meetings for the clubs I advise are in the evenings, so I spend two or three evenings a week in those. If I don't make it to the gym in the morning before work, I try to get there between meetings in the evenings. On the weekends when I don't have events for work, I usually hang out with other staff members and alums in the area, spend some time watching Netflix and hanging out with Remy the cat, or drive to Connecticut to visit my 96-year-old grandfather.

What is your favorite off-campus lunch spot? I love St. Inigoes General Store- their Turkey Reubens are one of my favorite foods.

What would colleagues be surprised to find out about you? I named Solomon the Seahawk when I was a student. The mascot didn't have a name, so they had a competition to name it. Another student and I suggested Solomon, and we won!

What is the most interesting/surprising job you've ever had? My last job was coordinating a low ropes course on a college campus. I was pretty surprised I took the job since I'm not really an outdoors person, and a large part of the responsibilities included spending time in the woods and outside in general. I was also pretty surprised by how much I ended up enjoying the position and that I actually kind of liked being in the woods.

Monthly Staff Recognition Award Winners

December 2014 - Rachel Honig, advocate and staff therapist

"Rachel is a contractual employee who regularly works outside her contracted hours to support students and the campus community. She is willing and enthusiastic about taking on new job responsibilities such as supervising two student groups, the Peer Health Educators and the SMARTies. Additionally, Rachel routinely advocates for students for a variety of reasons in order to help them access resources and obtain the support they need."

January 2015 - Lisa Smith, administrative assistant, Office of Planning and Facilities

"Lisa works hard to build community on campus and to celebrate success. She volunteers her time and baking talents to the college in many ways and builds bridges between different groups of people. She is a good role model for the staff."

Nominate a worthy staff member today! Winners receive 5 FREE tickets to the Great Room. Nomination forms for the monthly award 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 Reminders

As of January 1, 2015 the private mileage reimbursement rate increased from 56.0¢ to 57.5¢.

Campus Childcare Connections: Staff and faculty can request access to [the current babysitter list](#) by using the link provided or contacting the Career Center at careercenter@smcm.edu. **The Career Center does not screen or match students with faculty/staff, and scheduling, payment, etc. is between the individuals.**

Need to make edits to your website? Be sure to use the new online Web Help Desk request system. <https://smcm-web.zendesk.com/hc/en-us>

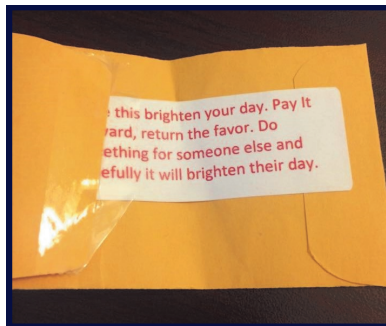
"Compassion and tolerance are not a sign of weakness, but a sign of strength." - Dalai Lama



Several SMCM Staff members have had their day brightened and a smile on their face because of anonymous notes sent to them! The unsigned notes ask the recipient to pay it forward, and to spread the kindness on to another.

If you receive one of these letters, please pass it on!

A simple act of kindness can go a long way in making someone's day!



Congratulations!

Jennifer Marsh earned her MS in I/O Psychology from North Central University in December 2014.



Kriantae Plater-Jones and her husband, William, welcomed the birth of a daughter on Dec 17, 2014.

Zhiyantah Malae weighed 8 lbs, 14oz

Amanda Pilkerton and **Keith Wood**

welcomed the birth of a daughter on Jan 30, 2015. Shelby Lynn weighed 7.5 lbs and 19.5".



Rick Loheed has successfully completed the US Coast Guard licensing exam for 100tons (with a sail endorsement). Congratulations to Capt. Rick!

Robert Marks has completed CSM's HVAC I & II, obtained certifications for AHERA Supervisor for Asbestos and CFC, and is a certified technician for HVAC Type I & III.

Joe Carroll Memorial Award - nominations due by April 1, 2015

Joe Carroll served as a housekeeper with the college for many years. He showed an immeasurable amount of dedication and impeccable service to our community and his spirit still resonates in our work. In his memory an award was established to honor a non-exempt staff member of St. Mary's College who demonstrates excellence contributing to the overall mission of the SMCM community. Nomination forms are available on the staff website and paper copies are in the each building on campus.

For questions or to nominate someone by phone, please contact Beth Byrd eabyrd@smcm.edu or 240-895-4280.

Welcome to St. Mary's!

Athletics & Recreation	Jennifer R. Anderson, Assistant Athletic Trainer
Communications & Marketing	Cheryl Bates-Lee, Associate Vice President of Strategic Communications and Marketing
Office of Information Technology	Jacob D. Wallace, Network Administrator
Public Safety	Nathan P. Townsend, PS Officer

Share your news via the form at <http://www.smcm.edu/staff/newsletters.html> or provide your senator with an update to pass along!

St. Mary's by the Numbers

8 the number of AED devices on campus. **4** are in the ARC (front desk, by pool, outside movement room, in the athletic trainer's office); others can be found at Public Safety, by the elevator of the first floor of the river center, library foyer, and the health center.

34 the percentage of our overall faculty and staff participation in the Anniversary Capital Campaign Challenge. Over **\$50,000** has been committed by **78** faculty/staff members as of Feb 13. *Thanks to everyone! - Kelley Hernandez*

130 the total number of care packages for local shelters student leaders put together during the annual LIFT OFF Leadership Conference on Saturday, January 31. Package items were donated on behalf of students, faculty, and staff!

175 the number of years SMCM will celebrate this year! What is the word is for this anniversary number? The answer is Demisemiseptcentennial or Quartoseptcentennial.

1044878 # of results in library search for the word "love"



Francis Titus and Susan Mazuc staying warm with hot cocoa!

Staff Senate Committees

Any staff member may join Staff Senate committees—contact chairs if you are interested!

Professional Development

Tommy Cable (chair), Kelvin Clark, Jim Cranmer, 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, Chris Burch

Awards & Recognition

Beth Byrd (co-chair), Robin Bates* Kyle Bishop, Dana Burke, Uzila Chowdhury '16*, Kathy Lewin, Sherrie Wooldridge
*Joe Carroll award only

Bylaws

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

Social Connections

Marsha Wilcox (chair), Faye Graves, Steve Gregory, Mary Johnston, Francis Raley, Lisa Smith, Leslie Tucker

The Staff Social Connections Committee braved the bitter cold to deliver sweet treats for Valentine's Day!



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. 3/11; 4/1; 4/22; 5/13; 5/20 (Staff Association Mtg– St. Mary's Hall); 6/3; 6/24



Sat, Feb 28: 6 pm—4 am in the Michael P. O'Brien Athletic and Recreation Center; **6th Annual American Cancer Society SMCM Relay for Life.** Create a team, join an existing team, plan to walk as an individual, and/or donate today at www.relayforlife.org/smcml Direct questions to Joanne Goldwater or Lisa Coté.

Late February: All-Day Supervisor Training Session, more info to come

Tues, Mar 31: @ 2-5pm—Comm[UNITY] training—Learn how to be a better advocate for all gender and sexual minorities and an advocate for LGBTQ members in the workplace. Contact Clint Neill, Assistant Director of Student Activities, at cbneill@smcm.edu or [240-895-4209](tel:240-895-4209).

Apr 7 & 8 : Professional Development Workshops by **Keith Merkey**, more info to come

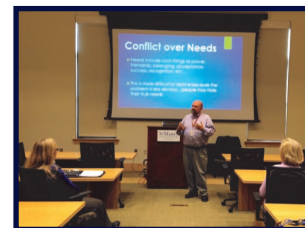
Sat, Apr 18: Admissions Open House and World Carnival

Sat, Apr 25: Southern Maryland Celtic Festival at Jefferson Patterson Park
<http://www.cssm.org/events/festival/>

Sat, Apr 25 @ 7:30 pm in the ARC—9th Annual Twain lecture "An Evening with Aasif Mandvi"



Renee Boley and Jackie Trenholm helped out by counting money all night at last



Let Us Hear From You!

Email your suggestions, questions, or concerns to mkgrube@smcm.edu

OR [complete the anonymous feedback form](#) available on our web sites.

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