

## Opening Day 2016

By Kristy Burg



This year's Opening Day Celebration was held in our Alumni Welcome and Convention Center (AWCC) for its second year. The event started with much better weather than last year and another great continental breakfast for all who attended. Once underway, Chancellor Andrew Leavitt welcomed everyone to this annual event and thanked all those in senior leadership and the 400+ individuals who helped move over 2,700 students into various residence halls throughout campus over the weekend.

With that said, Provost Lane Earns took the stage for the award presentation. It's such a great opportunity to show support to our colleagues and congratulate so many well-deserved individuals. The campus certainly wouldn't be the same without so many hard working people and showing our recognition is icing on the cake. Provost Earns also updated the campus community on the reaccreditation process in the works during this academic year and reminded us that strategic planning is also ongoing within the campus community. Progress, as always.

Chancellor Leavitt's convocation kicked off with a fantastic video designed by University Marketing and Communications showcasing our great campus. "Goosebumps," as Chancellor Leavitt said. The video is such a great marketing tool for the University moving forward. He then proceeded to share with us the new mission statement for UW Oshkosh that is currently going through the approval process. For those who did not attend the convocation, the following link showcases the speech in its entirety - <http://specialevents.uwosh.edu/opening-day/>. What a great time to be a Titan!

Of course, Opening Day wouldn't be the same without all the other events on campus. Reeve Memorial Union Concourse was filled with the Student Employment Fair, showing many opportunities for students looking to get their feet wet. 'Filled' would be an understatement as to how busy the Taste of UW Oshkosh was on the Mall. With such a warm and beautiful day, the Mall was overflowing with students, faculty, and staff. A quick downpour brought out the umbrellas, but that didn't deter those looking for a taste of what this campus offers. And boy, do we have plenty to offer!

After the Taste of UW Oshkosh, the Opening Day Walk/Run with the Chancellor kicked off. The majority of registrants came dressed to run! With continually rising temperatures in the afternoon, all those participating sure got their workout in and were encouraged to stay hydrated.

So many great opportunities at UW Oshkosh...here's to another great academic year!

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## President's Message

By Marci Hoffman

*Hail Titans! When I began my presidency this year, I was riding on the coattails of the tireless work of our presidents before me, and arm-in-arm with senators by my side. Senators. Sounds good right? Last year, under the leadership of Lisa Goetsch, the University Staff Council became the University Staff Senate. This is the third time we have changed our name since Chancellor Wells formed the Classified Staff Advisory Council back in 2000. The purpose of this change is to identify the synonymous authority of our shared governance groups. We wanted to identify parallels between the University Staff Senate, Faculty Senate, and the Senate of Academic Staff. "Senate" symbolizes that here at UW Oshkosh all employees groups are included and valued.*



*To further this spirit of solidarity, a Conference on Shared Governance that includes all four groups (fourth being the Oshkosh Student Association) began last year as a trial run. Communicating shared needs and initiatives is so important that we decided to formalize this group indefinitely. We are stronger united; we are all Titans.*

*We have much to look forward to and be proud of this year. Our biennial Leadership Series began in September, and the annual University Staff Professional Development Day is planned for Thursday, June 1, 2017. A massive THANK YOU to the volunteer planning committees who dedicated their time to organize these opportunities.*

*A new Chancellor's Study Group was developed to review the Work/Life Balance of all employees. During these difficult budgetary times, our Chancellor wants to focus on workplace joy. With this committee, Chancellor Leavitt is looking for ways to improve employee morale and remind us that everyday is a good day to be a Titan.*

*University Staff are the soul of UW Oshkosh. We are the most relatable to those outside of UW System. We are program assistants, custodians, IT, electricians, police, grounds crews, champions, and much more. We're cheerleaders and friends, we volunteer countless hours in the local community, some of us were born and raised in Oshkosh, we are alumni, our children are students here, sometimes our students feel like our children. And we wouldn't have it any other way. Because this is our campus. This is our community. And I cannot be more proud of our legacy. Thank you for building the university to where it is today. Thank you for being a Titan. Hail, hail! Cheers to another successful year.*

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## Ellie Maslowski Memorial University Staff Scholarship

The Ellie Maslowski Memorial University Staff Scholarship was established in February 2013 by Ellie's friends and colleagues at UW Oshkosh, following her passing on January 29, 2013. Ellie worked at UW Oshkosh for 19 years. She was the office manager for the Dean of Students office and organized the annual Odyssey program for incoming students. An advocate for fairness and equity, she was the 2011 recipient of the Wisconsin College Personnel Association's Support Staff Recognition Award and a 2012 recipient of the UW Oshkosh Outstanding Performance Award. Ellie was instrumental in developing the Classified Staff Advisory Council (CSAC), which began in May 2001, and served as its first chair. The council was the first of its kind in the UW System and inspired other state schools to begin similar programs. In acknowledgement of Ellie's efforts on behalf of classified staff (now University Staff), this scholarship will support University Staff members pursuing a degree or certificate at UW Oshkosh.



### Criteria:

1. Applicants must be permanent University Staff (or equivalent) at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. Both part-time and full-time staff members are eligible.
2. Applicants must have completed their six-month probationary period before applying. Length of service will be considered in the selection process but will not be the determining factor.
3. Applicants must be degree- or certificate-seeking students at UW Oshkosh.
4. Previous recipients may apply but preference will be given to new applicants.

### Selection:

1. Selection will be coordinated by the University Staff Senate (USS) Grants Committee. The committee will determine the number and amount of scholarships awarded.
2. The scholarship criteria and/or selection process may be modified by the USS.

### The Award:

1. To qualify for award disbursement, recipients must complete their course(s) with a grade of "C" or better.
2. The award will be applied to the recipient's student account once the committee has received an unofficial transcript showing successful completion of the course(s).



## Jumpstarting a Dream

by Dana Hartel

When news came to me that my application for the Sally Margis Award led to being chosen for one of the grants, I was overwhelmed with gratitude. The Sally Margis Award was created by the late Annette Blanchette to help University Staff employees (formerly known as Classified Staff) at UW Oshkosh “jumpstart a dream.”

The application focus is on career development through education and/or training, but my situation may be more unique than other applicants as my focus is not on my current work but on what I feel is my “life career.” I have a love of birds and of raptors (birds of prey) in particular, and I was able to participate in a Raptor Workshop:



Introduction to Field Techniques. The June workshop was held in Stevens Point for one very full week of hands-on experience instructed by Gene Jacobs who is an expert in the field.

Our small class of seven participants learned how to set up mist nets and to safely extract raptors from those nets so that we could collect valuable research information. During the week, we worked with Red-shouldered Hawk adults and chicks, an American Kestrel adult and five chicks, and two adult Merlins (small feisty falcons). I felt initiated into our raptor work when I was pooped on by an American Kestrel chick! It was an additional thrill at the end of the week when I was chosen to release the male Merlin back into the wild.



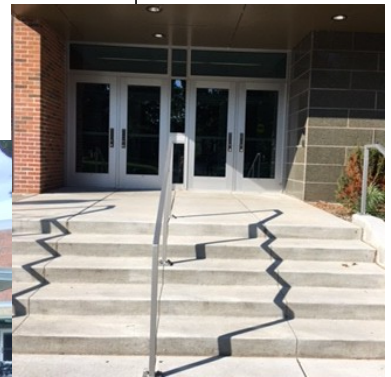
We also had the wonderful opportunity one of the days to travel to a non-public area of the Chequamegon National Forest. Although we were not able to work with our intended birds, we did observe Goshawk chicks. For those who are not aware, Goshawks are considered reclusive birds that not many people have the chance to witness, much less have the chance to see chicks in the nest. The mother Goshawk did not come around during our stay of several hours in the blind, but the time we had together was well spent as we each shared our acquired knowledge and experiences.

During the week, we all learned so much from our instructor and from each other, and it was quite gratifying to be involved. I would not have been able to participate in the workshop if it had not been for the Sally Margis Award.

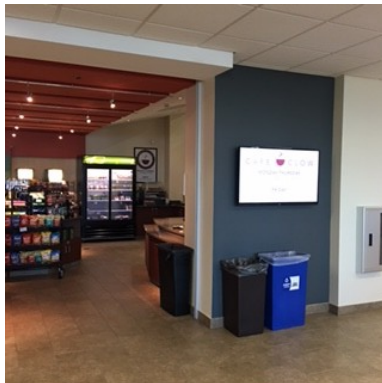
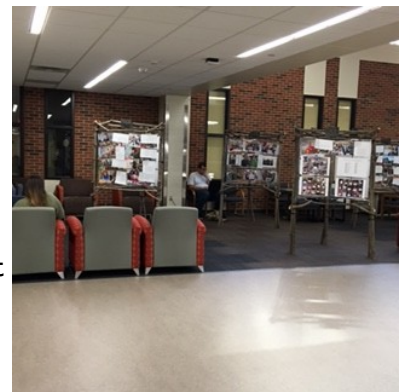
So, you ask where will I go with this education considering my work is located in an area without windows? I am currently looking into a couple long-term volunteer opportunities and hope that one will come to fruition. I am also willing to enthusiastically share my experience with anyone who is interested! (Just email me: [harteld@uwosh.edu](mailto:harteld@uwosh.edu).) In the meantime, I keep my eyes on the sky whenever possible.

*Post script: As I was selecting photos to accompany this article, I received a call from a person with more information on one of the volunteer opportunities. It was a great conversation that may lead to some exciting work.*

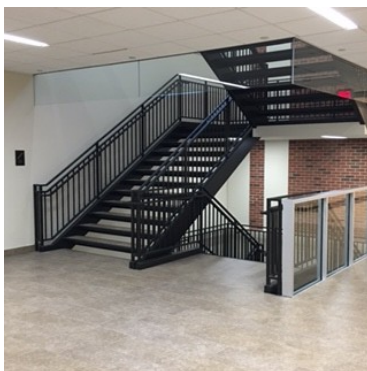
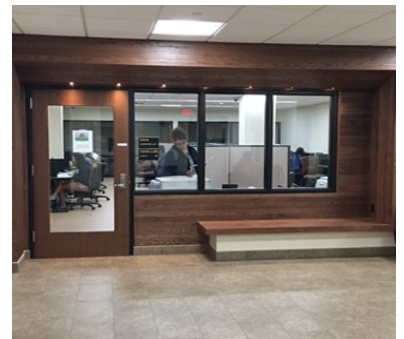
# Clow Remodel



Have you had the pleasure of walking through the renovated Clow building? Or maybe you had a meeting in Clow but couldn't find it so you inadvertently had your own personal tour? It really looks amazing and is a wonderful change for campus. However, the name Nursing/Education (N/E) is confusing for anyone who isn't "in the know" because the College of Nursing is now located in Clow. Should you find yourself trying to find a room in Clow or N/E, here are a few helpful tips:



- Clow rooms are on the south side, including the Clow Faculty offices, which is another area by itself but attached to Clow.
- N/E rooms are on the north side.
- Café Clow is located on the west side in the middle of both buildings (and has delicious soups!)
- The elevator and stairs to get to the 3rd-6th floors in N/E are found in the N/E side only. Clow has only 2 floors plus the basement.
- Clow & N/E are two separate buildings that are combined by walkways/hallways but are numbered and named differently.
- College of Nursing is now located in Clow.
- Clow computer lab is located in the basement of Clow.
- Several very nice conference rooms were added with window views and updated technology and can be found in the Clow side.
- We are told that the renovation of N/E is on the docket.





# Outstanding Performance Awards 2016

The University's Outstanding Performance Award recognizes exemplary members of the University staff whose activities, accomplishments and service are most deserving of acknowledgement.



Heidi Frey  
University Services Associate  
International Studies



Angelee Hammond  
Academic Department Associate  
Political Science & History



Amy Ready  
Academic Department Associate  
Human Kinetics & Health Education



Katrina Helmer  
University Services Program Assistant  
College of Nursing



Amy Jeanty  
Academic Department Associate  
Sociology

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## New Employee Perspective



### **Pamela Wendt – Program Assistant**

On September 6, 2016, I began a new adventure. I accepted the position of Program Assistant in the Office of Field Experience in the College of Education and Human Services here at UW Oshkosh. My first day I was off and running with the opening ceremony and a 3-mile walk! The next five weeks have been filled with lots of training and getting our spring 2017 student teaching candidates ready to start their final phase before they graduate. I believe that my background in education has helped me to adapt and take on this new position with a little more ease. I have always enjoyed working with students to achieve their goals in whatever ways I can.

I grew up in Fond du Lac and have lived there my whole life. I have two beautiful children, Jake (19) and Jena (16). As a family, we enjoy getting together with our forever-growing families. We shoot on a family trap team during the summer as well as spend our time at the racetrack watching my son and nephew race their sport-modified cars. I love to be outside working in my yard. I have played piano since I was little and enjoy doing anything family related. I'm sort of a neat freak, so I enjoy being home and always find myself organizing or cleaning something out.

I decided at the age of 36 to go back to school. I received my associate degrees in Administrative Professional and Legal Administrative Professional from Moraine Park Technical College in Fond du Lac (FDL). In 2012, I accepted a position at Marian University in FDL in the School of Education in the Masters and PhD program and graduated this past August with my Bachelor's in Organizational Communications from Marian. I have really enjoyed all of my college experiences and would love to start on my Masters, but haven't yet decided which program I would like to start. I enjoy working with others and knowing that I have made a positive difference in someone else's life. I look forward to my time here at UWO and expanding my knowledge and experience as I go.

### **Nominate a Colleague**

#### *The Richard H. Wells Award*

*Established in 2009, the Richard H. Wells Award recognizes Faculty and/or Academic Staff who have greatly contributed to University Staff, as Chancellor Wells had done on so many occasions. Nominations are typically not actively sought, though a form is available online. For more details on eligibility and criteria, please visit: <http://uss.uwosh.edu/awards-and-grants/richard-h-wells-award/>. Questions can be directed to Jenny Davies (x3230) and Angie Hammond (x3456).*

## The STAR Awards

The STAR Award is given monthly to a University Staff member who has worked at least six months at UW Oshkosh and has demonstrated a “commitment to the University by virtue of outstanding performance in support of the University’s goals ... Individuals must have performed above and beyond the expectations of their assignment position.” Winners of the STAR Award receive a framed certificate, a reserved parking space for one month and a gift from University Books & More. For more information on how to nominate a STAR visit the USAC website: [uwosh.edu/csac/awards-and-grants](http://uwosh.edu/csac/awards-and-grants).

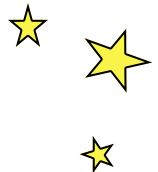


**June**

**Katrina Helmer**—College of Nursing

**Nominated by:** Brenda Garza

**Special Event or Accomplishment:** Katrina Helmer is a consummate professional. Without a doubt, she has superb technical expertise, combined with a truly admirable work ethic. We work closely with Katrina, and find her to be a dedicated employee whose knowledge and helpfulness have made our work life easier.



**July**

**Cindy Schultz**—Journalism

**Nominated by:** Timothy Gleason and Sara Steffes Hansen

**Special Event or Accomplishment:** Cindy Schultz goes far beyond the call of duty to benefit the Department of Journalism in many impressive ways. Her smile and positive attitude she delivers along with her amazing service. She is the kind of person for which the STAR award was created.



**August**

**Kira Fritsch** —Facilities Management

**Nominated by:** Anne Murphy

**Special Event or Accomplishment:** Kira was our facility designer for the asbestos abatement and remodel within the Student Health Center beginning last spring. Kira was there giving 110 percent all the way and we appreciated it!



**September**

**Jodi Anthony**—Human Resources

**Nominated by:** April Dutscheck

**Special Event or Accomplishment:** Jodi is a dedicated HR staff member who genuinely holds employees best welfare at heart. She is committed to making improvements in our policies and procedures so that we can better serve the campus community.





## The STAR Awards (continued)

### October

**Michele Highley**—Financial Services

**Nominated by:** Tom Grogan

**Special Event or Accomplishment:** We are wise to recognize and commend those who selflessly serve in important roles, performing duties and exercising responsibilities that many of us would not aspire to hold. Michele does this with an attitude of possibility and cheer, hope and optimism.



### November

**Gary Ostertag**—Parking Services

**Nominated by:** Benjamin Richardson

**Special Event or Accomplishment:** Gary took on the added responsibilities of lead shuttle driver due to a retirement. Gary stepped up to help without ever hesitating or complaining even though this affected his regular work and shift times. He is truly a team player.



*Pictures by IMC on UW Oshkosh Today*



### UW-Green Bay University Staff Conference

By Dana Hartel

On Oct. 28, a few University Staff member from UW Oshkosh – six of us at final count – headed to the Tundra Lodge for the UW-Green Bay University Staff Conference, courtesy of funding through our University Staff Grants program.

The day started with registration and a welcome by the UW-GB provost before going right into break-out sessions centered around a theme of wellness. Whether that related to physical, mental, or financial health, the sessions touched on the various areas. There was even time set aside for randomly selected groups of participants to gather and network with people from other institutions and share ideas.

Then we all gathered in the second half of the afternoon for the keynote speakers Kerry Geocarlis and Brad Bordini. Without introductions, they just flowed right into their presentation. It was refreshing to listen as they told their story and offered words on how everyone can take the joyride of life. They encouraged everyone to not continually rethink the past or stress about the future but live in the moment. One statement they made really resonated: “You have the time now, because you don’t know how much time you have.” That may by itself sound a bit morbid, but in context of the talk, it was a great motivator to take things in life as they come and find the joy surrounding every situation.

## Employees On The Move

Information provided by Human Resources effective through 10/24/2016

### NEW HIRES

Antonio Arellano—Facilities Management  
Myron Bailey—Custodial Services  
Paul Borst—Custodial Services  
Molly Bryden—Custodial Services  
Alexander Davis—University Police  
Christopher Derks—Facilities Management  
Nakeeta Giebel—University Police  
Tirtha Gurung—International Education  
Anthony Keller—University Police  
Robin Lewis—Custodial Services  
Brian Loker—Facilities Management  
Bee Lor—Student Health Center  
Amy Martin—Univ. Marketing & Communications  
Omar Mendez—Custodial Services  
Tracy Nadolski—Athletics  
Russell O'Neil—Facilities Management  
Ann Pagel—Facilities Management  
Michelle Peplow—COEHS Dean's Office  
Rosemary Ragenoski-Campbell—College of Nursing  
Bobbi Richter—University Police  
Candace Roberts—COEHS HSL Program  
Shannon Rowe—Facilities Management  
Karen Steinhofer—Human Resources  
Morgan Stewart—College of Nursing  
Pamela Wendt—COEHS Off. of Field Experience  
Todd Westenberger—Custodial Services

### NEW HIRES (continued)

Tara Weston—Custodial Services  
Koree Williams—Div of Information Technology

### MOVEMENTS/PROMOTIONS

Mary Bartelt—COEHS Educational Leadership to  
COEHS Dean's Office  
Malissa Bonlender—COEHS Dean's Office to  
Administrative Services  
Joann Mariahazy—COEHS Field Experience to  
COEHS Professional Counseling



**Correction:** Micki Benz, recorded in the last issue as a movement/promotion from Living Healthy Clinic, had actually moved from COB Undergraduate Office.

**Got an idea or suggestion for the NewsBreak?**

We would love to hear it! Send any ideas, suggestions or articles to Dana at [harteld@uwosh.edu](mailto:harteld@uwosh.edu)

## Employees On The Move (continued)

*Information provided by Human Resources effective through 05/13/2016*

### RETIREMENTS

Kathryn Budweg—Facilities Management  
Cheryl Fischer—Facilities Management  
Robert Johannes—Facilities Management  
Bol Majok—Facilities Management

### RESIGNATIONS

Shaune Augsburg—Ctr for Equity & Diversity  
Trista Farrell—Facilities Management  
Eric Freville—University Police  
Melissa Giddings—CON ACCEL Program  
Kristen Kelly—Student Support Services  
Karen Meyer—University Police  
Lynn Payne—COEHS Teaching and Learning  
Michael Retelle—Facilities Management  
Joseph Roth—Facilities Management  
Leuwen Santos—Facilities Management  
Marsha Schneider—COEHS HSL Program  
Stephanie Verbeten—University Police  
Bao Vue—Financial Aid



**From your NewsBreak team: Dana Hartel, Marjorie Carlson, Kristy Burg, Laura Zirbel, Mary Bartelt, Anne Murphy**

***Do you have an idea or suggestion for NewsBreak?***

*We would love to hear it! Send any ideas, suggestions or articles to Dana at [harteld@uwosh.edu](mailto:harteld@uwosh.edu).*