

PSA VOICE

December 2017

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO PROFESSIONAL STAFF ASSOCIATION



IN THE SPOTLIGHT
Michele Soliz, Ph.D.

Michele is the Assistant Vice President for Student Success & Inclusion in the Office of Multicultural Student Success

How long have you been a Rocket and in what capacity?

I started as a graduate assistant in the Student Conduct office in Fall 1999. My first position on campus began in August 2000 working in the Department of Bioengineering where I worked as an advisor. In the past 17 years, I have worked in the Office of the President, the Division of Student Affairs and in Academic Support Services.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

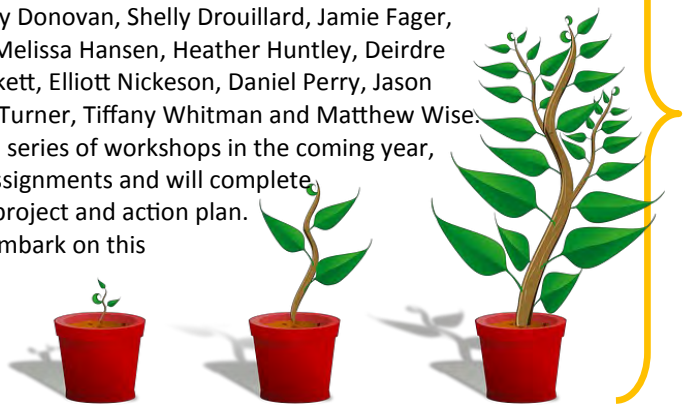
The 2017-2018 Professional Staff Council and PSA committees have been busy over the past four months. Here are some accomplishments: Four PSA newsletters published; 4 events promoted by the Professional Development Committee; $1,785 raised for the PSA Scholarship Fund through Day of Giving and the Holiday Bazaar; and 16 auction items already secured for the PSA Annual Meeting in May. We rely on collective effort to best serve our organization and make an impact. Currently, there are 41 members on a PSA committee and/or Council, which is a 3% participation rate given our membership of 1,218 across all campuses. We are looking to increase involvement. If you have ideas for Council or want to join a committee, please contact us! All are welcome, and please know that your time and talent are greatly appreciated. We hope you have a wonderful winter break. Happy Holidays and ***Go Rockets!***



Lori DeShetler, PhD

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FUTURE LEADERS

Professional Staff Council would like to express a big congratulations to the PSA employees that were chosen for the 2017-2018 Staff Leadership Development program. They are Christina Alvarado, Stacy Jo Brown, Candace Busdieker, Lori DeShetler, Josh Dittman, Kelly Donovan, Shelly Drouillard, Jamie Fager, Mark Fox, Beth Gerasimiak, Melissa Hansen, Heather Huntley, Deirdre Jones, Vickie Kuntz, Sara Lockett, Elliott Nickeson, Daniel Perry, Jason Rahe, Staci Sturdivant, Craig Turner, Tiffany Whitman and Matthew Wise. The participants will attend a series of workshops in the coming year, complete summer reading assignments and will complete a "game changer" capstone project and action plan. We wish them well as they embark on this exciting opportunity.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT continued

How would you describe your job?

Amazing! Working to increase retention and graduation and increasing inclusion efforts is my dream job. I am inspired by not only our students, but by the faculty and staff who are committed to these goals as well.

What distinguishes UT from other workplaces?

Despite its size, UT feels like a small, close knit community because of the strong relationships and community connections.

What resources from UT are your "must-haves" to perform your job?

I could not do my job without the support of all of our wonderful staff who work tirelessly for the success of our students.

What is your favorite thing about UT?

Right now, my favorite thing about UT is seeing the GENEROUS spirit of our faculty and staff who are contributing to the UTC3 campaign. I am so humbled by the commitment everyone is showing to our greater Toledo community.

Can you tell us something about yourself that most people would be surprised to learn?

I tried out for the *Wheel of Fortune* and was an alternate to be on the show but I never received the call to go on.

PSC HOLIDAY BAZAAR A SUCCESS!

The PSC Holiday Bazaar was a success with 23 vendors who participated at the event on November 17th at HSC. Vendors included holiday arts/crafts, jewelry, Pampered Chef, Tastefully Simple, books and many more. We raised $520 in table rental to put into our scholarship fund along with an additional $45 from the PSC raffle. Vendors donated an item as well to be used for our silent auction held at our annual meeting in May. Feedback from the event has been positive from both vendors and employees and we plan to hold the event next year. Any comments or suggestions are welcome in effort to grow the event and instill its future success. Thanks to all who attended!





Pictured above are shoppers at some of the vendor tables. Vendors included holiday arts and crafts, books, and much more!

Have a suggestion for our next newsletter? Ever considered nominating someone for the Spotlight feature? Did you attend a PSA or UT event and have pictures to share? Let us know with a simple email to utpsc@utoledo.edu

DID YOU KNOW?

Professional Staff Association has a Facebook page! Like and follow us for announcements, event photos, and the occasional fun, motivational post!

Want to be in the spotlight, or know someone who should? Nominate yourself or a colleague for a Spotlight feature in an upcoming newsletter with our new web nomination form, available on the PSA website.

UT email is migrating to Office 365. Do you often get a full email mailbox? You'll soon have 750 more MB of storage, plus 1 TB of One Drive personal storage, increased mobility to use Online Office applications across devices, and Office ProPlus Software available for download. IT has begun the migration to Office 365, starting with the Health Science Campus, and expects the full process to take about 6-9 months for the entire employee population. You'll be notified by email approximately one week prior to your migration date. For questions and issues, contact your IT support team or visit the FAQ page.

Benefits deductions will be spread across all 26 pay periods in the upcoming year, rather than twice a month. This means not to expect a bigger check in months with three paydays in 2018.

PROFESSIONAL STAFF ASSOCIATION

PROFESSIONAL STAFF COUNCIL

ANONYMOUS FEEDBACK

PROFESSIONAL STAFF ASSOCIATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

PSA COMMITTEES

ADVOCACY | COMMUNICATIONS | ELECTIONS | FUNDRAISING | MEMBERSHIP

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT | SCHOLARSHIP | SICK LEAVE BANK

PSA SOCK DRIVE FOR HANNAH'S SOCKS

Four-year-old Hannah Turner was helping her mom serve Thanksgiving dinner at Cherry Street Mission when she noticed a man whose shoes had split open to expose bare feet. She asked her mom, Doris, "Mommy, won't his feet be cold?" Doris, not wanting to worry her daughter, told Hannah his shoes would keep his toes warm. Unconvinced, Hannah said, "Mommy, he can have my socks." The next day, Doris and Hannah bought and delivered more than 100 pairs of socks to local shelters. Since this humble beginning in 2005, Hannah's Socks has donated over half a million socks to needy families in our area.

Professional Staff Council is hosting a sock drive to benefit Hannah's Socks this holiday season. Please visit one of the donation bins on campus between December 4 and 15 to give the gift of a brand new pair of warm socks for someone in need. Socks are the most requested item in homeless shelters. Currently, Hannah's Socks has the greatest need for women's and children's socks. You can learn more about Hannah's Socks or make a monetary donation at www.hannahssocks.org.

Donation Locations

Main Campus
- Field House Testing Center
- Gillham Hall 3100
- Rocket Hall 1830
- Student Union 2500 (OMSS)
- Transportation Center Lobby
- University Computer Center Breakroom
- University Hall 3300
- Wolfe Hall DNA Hallway

Health Science Campus
- Block Health Science Building Lobby
- Mulford Library 1st Floor

Scott Park Campus
- HR, Suite 1000



Hannah Turner, age 6
courtesy www.hannahssocks.org

HANNAH'S SOCKS



The Professional Staff Association is Now Accepting PSA Scholarship Applications for the 2018 – 2019 Academic Year

The PSA Scholarship application is now open and winter break is a great time for students to apply! This application requires one letter of recommendation from a PSA member, so winter break is a great time to write your letters as well!

The PSA scholarship is awarded annually to part-time or full-time students who are currently enrolled at The University of Toledo. Qualified applicants must have at least 30 earned hours (sophomore standing) and hold a 2.5 GPA (on a 4.0 scale) by time of application for eligibility. Students must submit their completed application (to include 3 personal/professional references, their 500-word essay, as well as one letter of recommendation from a current UT PSA employee) to Deborah Krohn, PSA Scholarship Chair, by mail, drop off to Stranahan Hall Suite 1022, or email (as one PDF attachment) from their UT Rockets email account only to deborah.krohn@utoledo.edu. Applications must be received or, if sent by mail, postmarked by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 16, 2018 for consideration; no exceptions. The application and submission information are available on the Professional Staff Association webpage.

For questions, concerns, or a copy of the full letter soliciting applications to send to students, contact Deborah Krohn. The details will also be sent out through PSA email announcements to share with students.



