

Staff Council

Newsletter Winter 2014



Arts & Sciences Staff Council Members

Pictured from left to right: Shawn Langan, Alecia Kimbrough, Jamie Longwell, Beth Whitaker, Lori Byrne, Alycia Libolt, JaMel Ways, Helen Sexton, Tom Danaher, Jared Mills, Shea Svoboda **Not pictured:** Patricia Fleek

JaMel Ways – Chair
Chemistry
Lori Byrne – Vice Chair
Psychology
Beth Whitaker – Secretary
Biological Sciences

Tom Danaher
Mathematics
Patricia Fleek
Physics & Astronomy
Shawn Langan
Physics & Astronomy

Alycia Libolt
Dean’s Office
Jamie Longwell
Psychology
Jared Mills
Physics & Astronomy

Helen Sexton
Political Science
Shea Svoboda
Computer Science
Ex-Officio Adviser
Alecia Kimbrough
Dean’s Office

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www.unl.edu/cas-staff-council University of Nebraska-Lincoln





JaMel Ways

Get to know your Staff Council!

What department do you work in, and what is your position?

JaMel works in the Chemistry Department as an Assistant to the Department Chair

What is your favorite thing about your job?

She gets to work with everyone in the department and really enjoys helping when she can! She loves that they have a laid back department.

What is one of your favorite hobbies/interests?

She loves to do anything creative! She is also an animal lover!

Why did you join or what do you want to do on staff council?

JaMel joined to assist in being the voice for UNL Staff. Sometimes change is needed and this is a great platform to network and get ideas out on the table.

Lori Byrne

What department do you work in, and what is your position?

Lori works in the Psychology Department as the Business Manager.

What is your favorite thing about your job?

She enjoys changing management whether it be implementing new policies or procedures, or helping implement new systems to do things efficiently to save the department money.

What is one of your favorite hobbies/interests?

One of her favorite hobbies is photography.

Why did you join or what do you want to do on staff council?

Lori joined staff council to help the staff have a voice, and to participate in helping the CAS be recognized as an outstanding college to work in.



Beth Whitaker

What department do you work in, and what is your position?

Beth works for the School of Biological Sciences as the Bios 101L Lab Manager.

What is your favorite thing about your job?

She enjoys being on campus around a variety of people.

What is one of your favorite hobbies/interests?

Her hobbies include her Grandkids mostly the last few years, but she also likes to read, cook, crochet and sew.

Why did you join or what do you want to do on staff council?

It is a great way to get to know others and their role in CAS. Beth would like to find ways to support the staff in CAS in their endeavors to do their best in their position at UNL.



Thomas (Tom) Danaker

What department do you work in, and what is your position?

Tom works in the Mathematics Department as an Administrative Assistant.

What is your favorite thing about your job?

His favorite thing about his job is the wide variety of things that Tom does. Each day is a different adventure.

What is one of your favorite hobbies/interests?

One of his favorite hobbies is gardening.

Why did you join or what do you want to do on staff council?

Tom joined staff council to make connections with other staff members within the College who he had not had the opportunity to work with on a regular basis.



Patricia (Patty) Fleek

What department do you work in, and what is your position?

Patty works in the Physics and Astronomy Department as well as the Nebraska Center for Materials and Nanoscience as the Business Manager.

What is your favorite thing about your job?

Her favorite thing about her job is the faculty are great and she enjoys solving mysteries.

What is one of your favorite hobbies/interests?

She enjoys relaxing on the water and reading books.

Why did you join or what do you want to do on staff council?

Patty joined staff council to get a chance to become more involved with the College and network with other departments within the college.

Shawn Langan

What department do you work in and what is our position?

Shawn works in the Physics and Astronomy Position as the Lab Manager.

What is your favorite thing about your job?

He loves the diversity of his position. With a healthy mixture of pedagogy, administration, and physics each day, he is always doing something new.

What is one of your favorite hobbies/interests?

His favorite hobby would have to be reading sci-fi/fantasy novels.

Why did you join or what do you want to do on staff council?

Shawn joined the staff council to help increase awareness and promote staff interests in the college. His end goal in the staff council is make CAS staff's working environment a bit better in any way that he can.





Alycia Libolt

What department do you work in, and what is your position?

Alycia works in the Dean's Office as a Senior Budget/Financial Analyst.

What is your favorite thing about your job?

Her favorite parts of her job are analyzing numbers and the people she works with.

What is one of your favorite hobbies/interests?

Her hobbies include spending time with family/friends and playing/watching sports.

Why did you join or what do you want to do on staff council?

Alycia joined Staff Council to meet new people within the College.



Jamie Longwell

What department do you work in, and what is your position?

Jamie works in the Psychology as an Administrative Technician.

What is your favorite thing about your job?

She enjoys the people she works with.

What is one of your favorite hobbies/interests?

One of her favorite interests is playing with her dog, Ramsey.

Why did you join or what do you want to do on staff council?

Jamie joined staff council to make more connections within the college and have fun.



Jared Mills

What department do you work in, and what is your position?

Jared works in the Physics and Astronomy Department as a Laser Optical Engineer and a Laser Safety Officer.

What is your favorite thing about your job?

His favorite part of the job is working in high-field physics research using high power lasers, and also troubleshooting items when things don't work as expected. Each day is different, with all the nuances of using multiple lasers, there is never a dull moment.

What is one of your favorite hobbies/interests?

Some of his favorite hobbies include hiking, camping, enjoying other outdoor activities, home brewing, and of course watching Huskers football.

Why did you join or what do you want to do on staff council?

Jared wanted to join the CAS staff council to get more involved with the campus. He hopes that his input on discussions help improve the campus and campus life.





Helen Sexton

What department do you work in, and what is your position?

Helen works in the Political Science department as a Staff Assistant.

What is your favorite thing about our job?

She enjoys working with faculty and graduate students.

What is one of your favorite hobbies/interests?

She enjoys cooking, trying ethnic recipes and taking care of her grandchildren.

Why did you join or what do you want to do on staff council?

Helen joined to meet more A & S staff and to have a voice in the college as a staff person.



Shea Svoboda

What department do you work in, and what is your position?

Shea works as an Instructional Computing Specialist in the Computer Science & Engineering Department.

What is your favorite thing about our job?

His favorite thing about his position is the variety of projects he gets to work on, making every day different than the last.

What is one of your favorite hobbies/interests?

Outside of work, he enjoys spending time doing almost anything outside. He thrives on fresh air and sunlight.

Why did you join or what do you want to do on staff council?

Shea joined the College of Arts & Sciences' Staff Council to learn more about the college, meet people from other departments, and get involved in programs that affect staff.

Alecia Kimbrough

What department do you work in, and what is your position?

Alecia is the Assistant Dean for Business & Finance.

What is your favorite thing about your job?

She learns something new every day – there's never a dull moment!

What is one of your favorite hobbies/interests?

She enjoys spending time with her family – specifically cooking meals together!

Why did you join or what do you want to do on staff council?

Alecia has been involved with the Staff Council since inception, and has enjoyed seeing it grow and really become an integral component to our College's culture! Every year we add new perspectives and ideas to how we can best serve our staff and open lines of communication throughout the College. We added several opportunities throughout the years for staff to grow professionally, engage in networking activities, and take on different roles than their daily work responsibilities entail. We hope to continue this trajectory for the council and involve every staff person in the college in some event throughout the course of the year.



A&S Service Awards

Kurt W Wulser	Chemistry ~ 20 Years
Shelly R Sorensen	College of Arts & Sciences ~ 20 Years
Thomas E Harvill	Computer Science & Engineering ~ 20 Years
Brenda E West	Center for Science Math & Computer Ed ~ 30 Years
Rex Allen Dieter	Mathematics ~ 20 Years
Marilyn Patricia Johnson	Mathematics ~ 25 Years
Donette M Petersen	Philosophy ~ 30 Years
Marjorie A Wolfe	Physics & Astronomy ~ 20 Years
Patricia J Fleek	Physics & Astronomy ~ 25 Years
John R Kelty	Physics & Astronomy ~ 35 Years
Betty C James	Psychology ~ 30 Years
Lori L Ratzlaff	Sociology ~ 20 Years



Congratulations!!

College of Arts & Sciences Ice Cream Social



On July 23rd, 2014, the Dean's Office and the CAS staff council got together to hold the annual CAS Ice Cream Social. The weather was mild, the ice cream was cold, and many CAS staff members were anxious to meet the new dean, Joseph Francisco, who made sure that all attendees had their fair share of ice cream!

Over 150 people attended the event and enjoyed the jolly ambience of time away from the desk for a tasty treat! The mix of ice cream flavors even tempted some attendees to head back for a second helping. We served chocolate, mint chip, and cookies and cream ice cream. With plenty of friendly smiles, the CAS staff banter was light and easy going. We hope to see you next year, with new flavors and new faces!



WHAT'S THAT NOISE?!... IT'S WHITE NOISE HYPOCRISY!



What do Dolly Parton, Sepultura, and Pavarotti have in common (besides an uncanny sense of fashion)? They have all contributed to the awesomeness that is “White Noise Hypocrisy”. WNH is a local band whose lead singer is a UNL College of Arts and Sciences staff member. This CAS staff member comes from a rich and eclectic heritage of music. She was born into a musical entourage, a local Partridge family if you will. One of the many cherished memories of her childhood includes playing on center stage with her family’s band at the Civic Auditorium back in the 80’s. After meeting her husband, they both joined a band early in its initial stages. They struggled with a name for the band’s progressive sound. “It sounded like white noise, yet also sounded pretty good, so it was somewhat hypocritical, hence the name, ‘White Noise Hypocrisy’” says this staff member regarding the band’s beginnings.

Have you figured out who this CAS staff member is? Her name is Cyndy Petersen and she works in the main office of the Physics Department. Cyndy doesn’t stop as a vocalist for the band. She has taken on many roles in her musical career. She wrote and co-wrote all of the lyrics for the band’s first CD last year. Additionally Cyndy has added her insight to the instrumentation side of WNH. Cyndy is solely responsible for booking gigs and band promotion for WNH. To complete the list, Cyndy has recently begun volunteering her time assisting Lincoln’s youth in their musical endeavors by working with them at the Academy of Rock. “One of the most rewarding things I have done with my musical talents” says Cyndy of her musical mentoring.

So what does Cyndy do in her “down” time? She attends a local Bluegrass and Country music festival with her family and friends. She will often sing for her family’s band at this festival, which brings her fond memories of her youth. And for those that are down with the lingo, she is big into MMORPG’s!

What does Cyndy hope to accomplish with her music? “This is a hard (question), since what I want to accomplish ... is music. I’d love it if when people hear my music, it makes them feel good. That’s all I really want is for people to feel good hearing my music.” And when asked what the future may bring, Cyndy says that she is forming a cover band with her husband. Cyndy also tours open mic nights at local establishments, so be aware, you might find a fellow CAS staff member serenading you on your next outing!

Excerpts of White Noise Hypocrisy’s first album can be found at reverb-nation at the following URL:

<http://www.reverbNation.com/thewhitenoisehypocrisy>



COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION



Tuesday, December 9, 2015, 4:00 p.m.

Great Plains Art Museum, Hewitt Place | 1155 Q St.

Fantastic food & beverages



Door prizes (must be present to win)



Annual Applause Award presentation



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN





SPARK SESSIONS

Jan 27th - 2pm - Location TBD

New Year's Wellness

Kim Barrett

Asst. Dir. for Well Svcs. & Fitness Prgms.

February 17th - 2pm - Location TBD

Active Bystander

Jan Deeds

Associate Director

Gender Programs/Women's Center Director

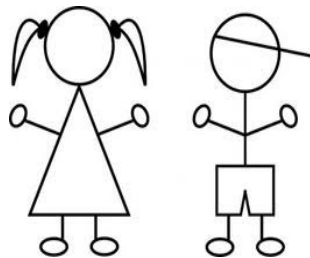
Coming in March/April - Location TBD

Communication + Non-verbal Cues

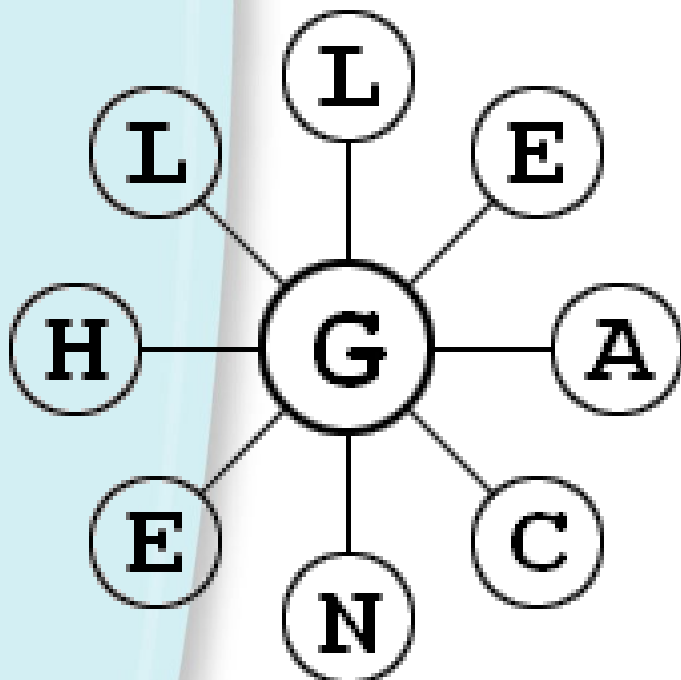
Dr. Charles Braithwaite

Just for fun

Two children, who were all tangled up in their reckoning of the days of the week, paused on their way to school to straighten matters out. "When the day after tomorrow is yesterday," said Priscilla, "then 'today' will be as far from Sunday as that day was which was 'today' when the day before yesterday was tomorrow!"
On which day of the week did this puzzling prattle occur?



Try to keep your brain sharp during this winter!



Using this grid, how many words can you find? Each word must contain the central **G** and no letter can be used twice, however, the letters do not have to be connected. Proper nouns are not allowed, however, plurals are. Can you find the nine letter word?

Excellent: 24 words.

Good: 18 words.

Average: 15 words.