Happy Retirement, Kim Breighner

by Joyce Sprague

What do you do when you need help with a Word document or an Excel spreadsheet? Since the mid-1980s when administrative assistants were first issued desktop computers, the most common response has been “ask Kim”! As of July 6, asking Kim is no longer an option because Kim Breighner, Instructional Technology guru extraordinaire, has retired after 40 years of service.

Kim came to the College from Schindler Elevator Corporation (then Westinghouse) where she worked as a keypunch operator. It was a seamless transition because her first position at the College was also as a keypunch operator. When she arrived on campus (the same day as her first wedding anniversary), there were only two people working in IT—Kim and the Director, Dick Wood. Although her duties varied, Kim worked in IT her entire tenure here. After keypunch came mainframe computers. Although the mainframes filled an entire room from floor to ceiling at that time, Kim surmises that they probably did not hold as much data as today’s smart phones.

Her most recent job was that of Digital Center Coordinator, which entailed maintaining equipment loaned out to the campus community, maintaining the poster printer, and processing printing charges. In addition, Kim provided computer software training and handled Helpdesk tickets that were assigned to her.

Kim has been married to her husband, Jack, for 41 years. They have two adult children, Chad and Shannon, as well as four grandchildren (Ethan, Tucker, Madi, and Erin). Kim expects that the grandchildren will keep her busy, and she and Jack hope to take some day trips and visit a few places they have yet to see. Kim also has plans to clean her house (“a little,” she says) and just generally spend a lot of time with the people she loves.

She recommends to those of us who are still looking forward to retirement to do it while we are still young enough to really enjoy it. Kim plans to enjoy whatever life throws her way and to make the best of every minute. One of the greatest rewards of her job was a chance to meet and work with a lot of really great people whom she called both colleagues and friends. She plans to stay in touch with most of them because she expects to miss them “tremendously.”

The day Kim walked into the basement of Glatfelter Hall to take on her duties for IT was fortuitous for all of us who know her. The day she walked out of her office in the West Building to begin the next phase of her life was an immeasurable loss. Gettysburg College, and particularly IT, will not be the same without her.

Thank you, Kim, for your service and dedication to the College, but most of all for your friendship. Enjoy your retirement!
What’s Happening on Campus  
compiled by Linda Miller

Brown Bag Lunches

Going Bananas Foster with Matt Snell  
Fri, Nov 13  12:00 noon in DH 19  
Just in time for the holidays! Join Matt Snell, Supervisor of the Bullet Hole, for a demonstration on how to make Bananas Foster which, of course, will include a taste test! Watch for this event to appear in the Digest, as an RSVP will be required.

Holiday Decorating with Sue Bucher  
Fri, Dec 11  12:00 noon in CUB 126  
Join Master Gardener Sue Bucher to create holiday decor. Watch for this event to appear in the Digest, as an RSVP will be required.

BINGO ! !  
Tues, Jan 8  11:30 - 1:00 pm in CUB 260  
Come enjoy our annual gift card bingo. Win great gift prizes for restaurants, groceries, gas, movies!

Sew What? Introduction to Crochet with Rebecca Barth  
Thurs, Feb 11  12:00 noon in Glatfelter Lodge  
Becca will provide instruction on how to create an item using beginner crochet techniques. Watch for this event to appear in the Digest, as an RSVP will be required.

President’s Dinner for Support Staff

Save the Date  
Sat, January 9, 2016

Sit-down dinner to be held at the Eisenhower Inn. Doors open at 5:30, meal at 6:00, and program at 7:00, followed by dancing. Service awards to be presented. Invitations will be sent mid-November.

President’s Post  
Janet Morgan Riggs

We all play a variety of roles here at Gettysburg. Whether we are serving food or planting flowers or cleaning residence halls or delivering mail or fixing computers or supporting academic departments or working in administrative offices—we are all here to assure that our students have a superb educational experience.

That sense of common purpose came through loud and clear in the responses to this year’s Chronicle of Higher Education “Great Colleges to Work For” survey. I was pleased to see so many responses that spoke of collegiality, collaboration, and a caring community united by a common mission. When asked, “What do you most appreciate about working at Gettysburg College?” our employees said, “compassionate and supportive colleagues,” “collaboration and cooperation,” “collegial atmosphere,” “we are all working toward a common goal,” “team spirit,” and “how hard everyone here works and how they all go above and beyond.”

That said, I acknowledge that not all is perfect at Gettysburg. At a recent Support Staff Council meeting, I heard that some members of our support staff are afraid to voice concerns or may feel that their concerns are not responded to adequately. The staff in our Human Resources Office is certainly available to any of you who have issues that you would like to see addressed. In addition, I encourage you to bring issues of broader concern to Support Staff Council. In fact, Support Staff Council plans to institute a Suggestion Box, where concerns/issues can be reported anonymously. They will announce the location of this box soon. My hope is that we can open a conduit for comment and suggestions that will help us to continue to improve the Gettysburg College community.

Through thick and thin, members of this community step up to do what needs to be done—and then some. My colleagues at other institutions do not talk about their employee culture the way I talk about Gettysburg’s. We are distinguished by a can-do attitude and a commitment to excellence that I never take for granted. Thank you for giving me those bragging rights! Most importantly, thank you all for your dedication and commitment to Gettysburg College.
Meet the Members of the 15-16 Support Staff Council  by Jesse Mains

SEATED: Nick Heller, Becky Best. STANDING: Linda Miller, Matt Snell, Wendee Dunlap, Jesse Mains, and Terry Cotter.
Missing from Photo: Amy Donahue, Sid Williams.

You have heard of the Support Staff Council and voted for its members, but do you know what the Support Staff Council actually does?

I thought the Support Staff Council (SCC) members met, discussed events on campus, held a fun Bingo twice a year, and put together a refreshing Support Staff Dinner in January. After becoming one of the SSC’s newest members, I learned that there is much more to the Council than my original perception.

The main objective of the SSC is to improve and maintain the quality of working life for support staff employees of the College and to build a sense of community among support staff, faculty, administrators, and students. To aid in this objective, members of the Council serve on three committees: Training and Development, Employee Relations, and Communications. These three committees plan or assist in planning events such as the Brown Bag Lunch series (a lunch and learn for support staff), the annual President’s Dinner for Support Staff, the spring All-Campus Meeting, the summer All-Campus Picnic, and produces the Pillars newsletter two times per year. The SSC also provides financial assistance to support staff members, through the Grant Development Program, for the purchasing of textbooks/materials and associated fees when attending college courses offered by Gettysburg or other institutions. The grant will also provide assistance for attending off-campus seminars, workshops, and programs that foster/promote professional and personal development. To find out more, visit the Support Staff Council website at www.gettysburg.edu/staff/support_staffcouncil/. If you are interested in assisting with any of these events or programs, please contact a Council member.

Council membership consists of nine rotating members. Both full-time and permanent part-time support staff are eligible for nomination. Representatives are chosen yearly from Dining Services, Facilities, Public Safety, and paraprofessional staff.

The 2015-2016 members of the Support Staff Council are Chairperson Becky Best (Spanish), Secretary Wendee Dunlap (Annual Giving), Treasurer Matt Snell (Dining), Training and Development Committee Nick Heller (HVAC) and Jesse Mains (Diversity & Inclusion), Employee Relations Committee Terry Cotter (Health Services), Sid Williams (Transportation) and Amy Donahue (Public Safety), and Communications Committee Linda Miller (Provost’s Office).

Please feel free to share any thoughts you may have on continuing to make Gettysburg a “Great Place to Work.” Council members value your suggestions and encourage you to reach out to them. We look forward to seeing you at upcoming events.

We Love Employee Perks!  compiled by Rose Goodman

There are so many benefits to working at Gettysburg College. Watch future issues for more Employee Perks.

Learn a Language. Transparent Language Online is free to employees and students. Over 100 languages are available. Access the link below and create an account. You need to use a campus computer to sign up. Once your account is set up, you can use both the web and mobile versions from anywhere. Contact a Librarian or the Language Resource Center with questions.

https://education.transparent.com/gettysburg/game/ng/#/login
New Support Staff Hires

since April 1, 2015

- Juan Acevedo  Custodial Services
- Valerie Anderson  Asian Studies Department
- Noelle Billand  Academic Advising Office
- Megan Blount  Civil War Era Studies
- Melissa Boone  Custodial Services
- Rachael Bradford  Facilities Services Office
- Regina Brown  Custodial Services
- Brian Burrier  Financial Services Office
- Katelyn Chambers  Athletics
- Barbara Clements  Custodial Services
- Marc Crouse  Infrastructure and Computing
- Katherine Flynn  College Life Office
- Bryson Hartler  Athletics
- Zachary Hertzog  Human Resources Office
- Lorraine Madden  Department of Public Safety
- Jeffrey McKay  Department of Public Safety
- Ty Mitts  Grounds Services
- Justin Mohn  Department of Public Safety
- Erin Morrow  Dining Services
- Chaney Musgrave  Musselman Library
- Barbara Naugle  Custodial Services
- Miles Rinehart  Educational Technology
- Shawn Runyon  Athletics
- Tammy Sanders  Dining Services
- Alexa Schreier  Musselman Library
- Charles Skalaski  Athletics
- Jean Snowden  Department of Public Safety
- Rick Stoner  Dining Services
- Casey Thurston  Athletics
- Brian Wildasin  Maintenance Services

Support Staff Retirees

since January 1, 2015

- Kim Breighner  Educational Technology
- Steve Bussey  Custodial Services
- Larry Hower  Infrastructure and Computing
- Donna Main  Custodial Services
- Harry Melhorn  Maintenance Services
- Mary Ann Remaley  Human Resources
- Edna Showers  Custodial Services

Staff Transfers to Staff Positions

since April 1, 2015

- Rebecca Barth  History and Classics to Center for Career Development
- Clare Crone  Student Activities to History and Classics Departments
- Suzette Redding  Department of Public Safety to Student Activities & Greek Life
- Jan Sharrah  Athletics to Admissions

Staff Transfers to Admin Positions

since January 1, 2015

- Beth Mattern  Administrative Assistant to Executive Assistant in College Life
- Karen Re  Benefits Specialist to Assistant Director of HR / Risk Management
- Dawn Crockett  Staff Accountant to Assistant Controller of Financial Services
- Eric Richardson  Grounds Supervisor to Manager of Grounds Services
- Andrew Knox  Head Men’s and Women’s Tennis Coach

MORE INFORMATION TO COME.

Employee Holiday Party

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2
3:30 - 7:15 at Majestic Theatre

- Movie, Arthur's Christmas, shows at 3:30, 4:30, and 5:15.
- Reception in upstairs and downstairs lobbies from 4 - 7.

Shuttles available from Constitution Lot.

MORE INFORMATION TO COME.