Tonya Agnew

Director of Communication, College of Education

Tonya Agnew is the director of communication for the College of Education where she is responsible for developing and implementing strategic communication and media plans, marketing and public relations efforts, and printed and digital communication. She worked with the College of Education in the same position from 2006-2012 and returned after four years as manager of marketing and development for CityBus—from public education to public transportation and back again! Tonya—who holds a BA in visual communication design from Purdue University—currently serves as past-president for the local chapter of the American Advertising Federation and is the chair of Family Equality Council’s Midwest Advisory Board. At Purdue she serves on the Directors Advisory Council for the LGBTQ Center and on the Office of the Dean of Students’ Advisory Committee on Equity. As part of her advocacy work she has spoken at the Hoosiers Out Together Conference, Purdue Mortar Board Leadership Conference, Purdue’s first celebration of National Coming Out Day, and at Family Equality Council events. Tonya and her wife, Amy Crampton, live in Lafayette and have two sons—Leo, an 8th grader at Tecumseh Junior High School and Jesse, a Marine stationed in San Diego.

Michelle Bates

Director of Project Management Office, ITaP

Michelle Bates completed her B.S. in Management with a minor in Information Systems from Purdue in 2001. Following graduation she joined Purdue Federal Credit Union first managing several branch locations then transitioning into technical project work in 2004 where she deployed a full CRM (customer relationship management) solution. Following that project, Michelle began leading technical resources, overseeing the ecommerce, application and development, core systems, and customer service teams. Michelle joined Purdue University in 2012 and currently serves as the director of the Project Management Office in ITaP. In this role she leads the project managers, project portfolio resources and processes, as well as the central testing team. She holds a PMP (Project Management Professional) certification and will complete her M.S. in Technology Leadership from Purdue’s Polytechnic Institute in the spring of 2018. Michelle is passionate about the strategic value of IT and emphasizes the people side of the technology profession. Michelle resides in Lafayette with her husband Monte, and their four children. In her free time she enjoys reading, tea, trying new foods, traveling, hiking, and music.
Ze nephia Evans, Ph.D.

Director of Science Diversity Office, College of Science

Ze nephia Evans received a Ph.D. in Cell and Developmental Biology from Purdue. Dr. Evans worked as a Lab Coordinator and faculty lecturer in the Biological Sciences and served as the multicultural student advocate for students in biology. She sponsored a program to send biology faculty members to Historically Black Institutions and aided in recruiting and retaining graduate students. She is the Director of the Science Diversity Office after serving as Director of Multicultural Science Programs and Associate Director of Science Diversity Office. Dr. Evans was a former honorary member of the Barbara Cook Chapter of Mortar Board, Iron Key, Alpha Delta Lamda and Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society. She has advised the Association of Multicultural Science Students, Black Graduate Student Association, Caribbean Student Association, LYNX, Rotaract, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Currently she advises Upsilon Chapter of Omega Phi Chi and is the Senior Faculty Fellow in Earhart Hall. Dr. Evans has been honored with the Helen B. Schleman Gold Medallion, One Brick Higher Award, Title IX Awardee, The Black Graduate Student Association (BGSA) Distinguished Service Award, BGSA Engagement Award, The Black Caucus of Faculty and Staff Student Award and was recently named a Special Boilermaker.

Bryan Gutridge

Associate Director of Catering, Dining & Catering

Bryan has spent most of his professional career in food service working in a variety of roles in cities across Indiana and Chicago. Prior to culinary work he explored academia and teaching while receiving a Master’s in Religious Studies at Indiana University. He joined Purdue in early 2012 and has held a number of roles within Dining. Beginning in the catering production kitchen he later moved on to supervising a dining court. Bryan returned to catering to manage and redesign the beverage department, and finally took the title of Associate Director of Catering in 2016. Throughout his time at Purdue Bryan has been focused on developing new opportunities for students to gain meaningful work experience as well as growing the full time staff and empowering them to become confident leaders in their own right. Bryan is always looking for ways to improve the success of those around him and build connections across departments. When not at work Bryan is usually at home cooking and learning new charcuterie skills. He and his wife Liz enjoy taking family walks with their daughters Alice (5) and Hazel (2) around their West Lafayette neighborhood.
Chris Teague
Supervisor – In House Project Delivery – Telecommunications/Electronics, Physical Facilities

Chris graduated from Eastern Illinois University with a focus on Occupational Development and Workforce Education while working full time and raising a family. He brings to Purdue over 20 years of experience in telecommunications, electronics, and physical security. He has served as Program Director and Lead Instructor for a one-of-a-kind telecommunications training program that has seen several years of 100 percent placement in the workforce, as well as, served as a subject matter expert and trainer within the telecommunications industry. While at Purdue, Chris has served as the Senior Chair of the United Way Campaign for the Physical Facilities Department, been involved with the EAM transition project, and is currently leading a pilot program to more efficiently plan and schedule the large amount of work orders that enter the Physical Facilities Central Shops and Zones each day. Chris and his wife, Melissa, have 2 kids, Kenna (14), and Nate (11) who are both active in their respective schools.

Ben Terhune
Assistant Director of Contract Management, Procurement Services

Ben holds two Purdue degrees; receiving his Bachelor of Arts in Communications in 1994, and his Masters of Business Administration in 2013. Ben also received his Doctor of Jurisprudence from Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law in 2013. Ben began his Purdue career in 2013, and currently serves as the Assistant Director for Contract Management for Procurement Services. Ben also serves as Special Counsel – Procurement Contracting and Risk Management. Ben is often called upon to assist the University in negotiating contracts, resolving contractual disputes, providing advice in contractual matters, and assisting in the development of policies and procedures to mitigate and manage the University’s risk. Prior to coming to Purdue, Ben was in private law practice in Indianapolis. Ben focused his practice in real estate, mortgage foreclosure, contracts, insurance defense, insurance subrogation, and workers compensation defense. Ben married his college sweetheart, Amy. They have two children, Ashley and Alec, and reside in Pittsboro. In his free time, Ben attends Alec’s high school soccer and golf matches, and watches Ashley on the Boilermakers’ sidelines on football Saturdays, where she serves as a student manager. Ben and Amy are also active members of the Indy West Great Banquet community.

Photos by Rodney McPhail