

New Employee Biographies 2021-22

Jacques Bowker looks forward to implementing the vision of the IT department, which is to see students and staff supported honorably and to see God glorified in all they do. Jacques attended Bible college in Sydney, Australia and has a passion for the local church. He enjoys the outdoors: camping, fishing, hiking, paddle boarding, or any other reason to get outside! He also loves riding motorcycles, traveling to new places, and finding a great cup of coffee. Jacques is thankful for the opportunity to be a part of Wheaton Academy and is excited to see what the future holds for the school.

Kristine Bowling is a familiar face around Wheaton Academy. With experience as a parent and previous staff member, she is looking forward to her new role as a Cafeteria Assistant. Kristine brings multiple years of experience as an office and administrative assistant at Wheaton College and Airhart Construction. She is married to Eric and her three children – Kordell ('16), Cole ('18), and Kelsey ('21) – are all Wheaton Academy graduates. In her spare time, Kristine enjoys biking the nearby prairie path trails.

Steve Mantel, '16 has a great passion for theatre, and he is eager to share it with students in his roles as a faculty support teacher and Furnace Company improv coach. With the experience of 25 different productions at Taylor University, he is familiar with acting, directing, stage managing, lighting, and painting. Steve was a candidate for two Irene Ryan Nominations as well as Best Actor for Mitchell Theatre's 2019 production of *Much Ado About Nothing*. As a Wheaton Academy graduate himself, Steve is thrilled to encourage students in their walk with the Lord. His hobbies include reading, writing, editing videos, video games, and music.

David Moran, with eight years of youth ministry experience, is passionate about Jesus and his mission. He is eager to teach students how to open their Bibles with wonder and confidence. David is working towards a Master of Divinity at Moody Theological Seminary and enjoys discipling students of diverse backgrounds and needs. He recently tied the knot and loves sharing life with his wife. David's hobbies include running, biking, spending time with friends and family, and coffee.

David Okposio is eager to share his love of mathematics. He graduated with a B.S. in Mathematics from Delta State University and a M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Purdue University Northwest. With career experience ranging from tutoring to engineering to banking, David is blessed to continually learn and grow through life. He is excited to both teach math in the classroom and collaborate with faculty. David enjoys playing chess, spending time at the gym, and watching his favorite football club, Chelsea F.C.

Kyra Patterson is excited to empower students through math and serve the Wheaton Academy community. As a 2019 Judson University graduate, she has conversed with influential leaders in the community, nation, and world through the World Leaders Scholar

Program. These experiences contribute to Kyra's pursuit of open-mindedness, critical thinking, and problem solving in the classroom. After two years of teaching in Sun Prairie, WI, she is looking forward to joining the Wheaton Academy faculty. In her spare time, Kyra enjoys reading, traveling, calligraphy, and listening to music.

Autumn Ratliff, '15 loves literature, and she pursues a creative, engaging classroom culture. Autumn just finished her Master of Arts in Teaching alongside her double undergraduate majors of English Literature and Religious Studies at DePauw University. She is a Wheaton Academy graduate and is excited to bring her college softball experience to coaching the Wheaton Academy softball team. In her free time, Autumn enjoys fishing and crocheting for her Etsy shop BEE KIND which spreads kindness and raises money for Autism research.

Chris Renwick is excited to serve the Lord and join the Wheaton Academy community as a Cafeteria Assistant. In 2020, she moved to the area from Dallas, TX to be closer to her daughter, Charity Moon. Prior to her move, Chris served on a church leadership team for 20 years with experience in administration, music coordination, and ministry service. She enjoys studying the Bible, praying for others, and drinking coffee. Chris loves spending time with family and is thrilled for the upcoming arrival of her first grandchild.

Lissy Rienow, '17, a Wheaton Academy graduate, is honored to return to a pivotal location in her academic and spiritual life. She recently graduated from Lipscomb University with a degree in History Education and worked at Nashville Christian School and Oliver Middle School as a student teacher. Lissy's passion for teaching is rivaled only by her love of dance. She cannot wait to work with French and social studies students, as well as with the Furnace Company Dance team. While she will join the faculty as Ms. Rienow, Lissy will soon become Mrs. Bailey after her September wedding. She is incredibly thrilled to be starting new chapters in her life.

Kimberly Schoepke, '90 enjoys interacting with Wheaton Academy students and encouraging them to grow into men and women of God. She married to her high school sweetheart, Jason, and has loved being a stay-at-home mom to her three girls Claire ('18), Anna ('21), and Katelyn ('24). Kimberly looks forward to joining Wheaton Academy as the Friday receptionist and Business and Innovation Program volunteer coordinator. She is an avid reader and spends as much time as possible in Door County with her family.

Elle Wilkerson is thrilled to be back Wheaton Academy! After nine years away, she is looking forward to teaching English curriculum, getting to know students, and being involved in the community. With a B.S. in English from Wheaton College, Elle taught at Wheaton Academy before moving on to Valor Christian High School in Colorado. Her journey at Wheaton Academy began as a new college graduate, but she returns as a married mother of three (almost four) amazing children. In what little free time she has, Elle enjoys reading, playing the piano, and going on walks with her family.

