



2016 Young Alumni Award - Kate Miller-Corcoran

AA - English 2000 Broome Community College

BA – English 2002 PSU

AAS - Early childhood education 2008 Broome Community College

MA – English 2009 SUNY Cortland

Previously a 4th grade teacher in Baltimore City Schools

In 2013 Kate started, as founding owner, her own cloth diaper business. Magical Mamas Cloth Diapering Service which filled a need in the tri-cities area for a previously non-existent health conscious and environmentally friendly service.

In 2015 Kate took on an additional new career role as the Binghamton farm share coordinator for VINES which is an acronym for Volunteers Improving Neighborhood Environments, (VINES), is a not for profit entity which in collaboration with the Healthy Lifestyles Coalition offers an innovative program that helps increase access to healthy fresh produce by partnering with local farmers. As the VINES Farm Share Coordinator Kate manages the overall planning and implementation of Binghamton Farm Share including ensuring access by low income families and the continuity of the volunteer workers who comprise over 90% of the program's staffing.

Regarding Kate's contribution to Penn State and our local Alumni Chapter I believe our Chapter President Michele Steinhauser expresses it best. Without Kate's significant contributions Michele says she is not certain our chapter would be what it is today. Michele attributes our chapter's growth, spark and success to Kate.

What are some of Kate's contributions? She:

- took on the role as chapter VP and is serving her 3rd term in this position.
- has been the driving force behind the chapter embracing electronic communications which has been instrumental in communicating with our geographically dispersed membership including creating
 - all chapter communications and the semi monthly newsletters.
 - a chapter Mailchimp account, which allows all Penn Staters in our chapter area to receive chapter news
 - Google forms and PayPal accounts enabling on line membership and activity enrollments & payments
 - an Amazon Smile account that affords those who shop online to offer part of their purchase price to be donated back to the chapter scholarship fund.
- Kate has organized and chaired the annual summer chapter picnic /student send off. This fun event has grown from 40 attending to close to 100 this past summer.
- Kate organizes the volunteer committee and assists to create the annual chapter summer mailing, which has become quite popular and enjoyed by our members while recruiting new members.
- In the winter, Kate is the chair of the winter dinner, which at Kate's Suggestion has now become a chapter fundraiser for THON. As a result of Kate's suggestion and efforts we raised close to \$1,000 for THON last year.

Kate is especially dedicated to helping the current and potential future Penn State students. She is engaged in Alumni admission events and especially the student transfer day at BCC. She is a valuable member of this team having been a transfer student herself from BCC to the Penn State Main Campus.

Kate is fun, kind, and a caring and positive individual. She is dedicated to sharing her skills and talents for the benefit of others. And speaking of sharing we would like to express special appreciation to Kate's husband, Nick and daughter Zoey for their willingness to share Kate's time with all of us.

Our chapter would be at a great loss without Kate's help, support and spirit. Thank you Kate Miller Corcoran winner of the Binghamton Chapter Penn State Alumni Association's first annual Young Alumni Award.

May your life continue to "*Swell the Fame of Dear Old State*"