Pathways for Women in Supply Chain Program

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Year 7, Newsletter 3
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On Friday, October 28, Quality Supply Chain Co-op, Inc. (QSCC), one of the founding sponsors of the Pathways program, hosted the 2022-2023 Pathways Scholars at The Wendy’s Company.

Dave Thomas founded the Wendy’s Company in 1969. QSCC, founded in 2010, is the independent purchasing cooperative for the Wendy’s® system. They are the third-largest purchasing cooperative in the quick-service restaurant industry, with nearly $4 billion in buying power.

QSCC team members Courtney Ward, Sr. Specialist – Communications; Mark Barry, Category Manager – Other Foods; Emory Minter, Regional Distribution Manager; Raymond Chahyadi, Analyst – Commodity Risk Management; and Tabby Samuel, Director – Finance & Analysis provided an overview of Wendy’s complex supply chain.

A panel discussion followed the presentation. Team members Whitney Grizzle, Associate Manager – Smallwares & Contract Services, Michael Harry, Category Manager – Bakery, and Samantha Johnson, HR Director – People Excellence provided insight into each of their career paths.

QSCC’s CEO, Pete Suerken, joined the panel and also offered the Pathways Scholars career advice on how to make the most of opportunities the scholars are presented with throughout their careers.
Nationwide Representatives hosted the Pathways Scholars on Friday, November 4, at their headquarters. Nationwide was founded in 1926 in Columbus Ohio and is a Fortune 100 company that offers a full range of insurance and financial services across the country. Products include car, motorcycle, homeowners, pet, farm, life and commercial insurance as well as annuities, mutual funds, retirement plans and specialty health services.

The Pathways Scholars toured One Nationwide Plaza and then met with Nationwide team members Hope Jacoway, Consultant – Supplier Diversity; Kim Brown, Consultant - Supplier Diversity; Bryan Drewry, Consultant, Relationship Management; Kimberly Ayers, Director – Procurement; Shannon Puhl, Director - Procurement Enablement & Compliance; Tina Gerhart, Sr. Consultant - Procurement; Kiara Harris, Consultant - Procurement and Anna Finley, Specialist – Procurement.

The team provided an overview of Nationwide’s mission; products and services, commitment to their Supplier Diversity Program, the organizational structure of their Procurement function which includes Sourcing, Shared Services, Risk & Control Services and Supplier Diversity. The Nationwide associates also spoke about their respective career paths and the importance of networking and the positive impact it can have on career opportunities and advancement.

Thank you to both QSCC and Nationwide for their continued partnership helping shape the lives of these bright, intelligent minds.

Wishing you all a safe, healthy and Happy Thanksgiving holiday. Go Bucks!
This program, offered by the Operations and Business Analytics Department, is a combination scholarship and experiential engagement program that will introduce female undergraduates to supply chain careers earlier in their college experience and provide them with opportunities to engage with industry executives in a mentoring capacity.

Learn more at:

go.osu.edu/PathwaysforWomeninSupplyChain