Pathways to Supply Chain

September 2023
Year 8, Newsletter 1
Thank you to our sponsors!

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Meet the 2023-24 Pathways Scholars!

Kayla Astrab
Strongsville, OH

Reese Bachtel
Massillon, OH

Elena Boger
Marysville, OH

A'Shaunti Boyd
Cleveland, OH

Jennie Craddock
Hilliard, OH

Cerena Dawson
Maple Heights, OH

Hanna Faulkner
Barrington, IL

Reese Hutchison
Barrington, IL

Rachael Johnson
Sylvania, OH

Katherine Klepck
Mentor, OH

Hannaniah Matthews
Columbus, OH

Lauren Millard
Avon, OH

Jasmine Muhammed
Frankfort, IL

Saiyami Patel
Springfield, OH

Annelise Salomon
Cincinnati, OH

Maggie Slack
Chardon, OH

Lily Smiley
Hamilton, OH

Kennedy Tucker
Columbus, OH

Mia Zamora
San Antonio, TX

Sarah Zouaoui
Perrysburg, OH
August 25, 2023

Orientation with University and Peer Mentors

University Mentors Dr. Ken Boyer, Kr. Mi Kyong Newsom, Professor Bonnie Schroeder, Professor Whitney Mantonya and Molly Miller met with the Pathways Scholars on August 25th to provide an overview of the Pathways Program and reviewed expectations for their meetings with the Pathways Sponsors. Four Peer Mentors: Alaina Croskey, Lexi Gruszczynski, Megan Morrisey, and Victory Nita also met with the current scholars to answer questions about their own experiences as Scholars, attending OSU, campus life, etc.

Scholars met with representatives from Wendy’s QSCC

Immediately following the Pathways orientation, the Scholars met with representatives from Quality Supply Chain Co-op, Inc. (QSCC), the independent purchasing cooperative for The Wendy’s Company. QSCC is the second-largest purchasing cooperative in the quick-service restaurant industry with nearly $4 billion in buying power. Samantha Johnston, Sr. Director of Human Capital; Courtney Ward, Sr. Specialist in Communications; and Mickia Barksdale, Project Management Coordinator led the discussion centered on the intricacies of supply chain and QSCC's integral role to assure supply for Wendy’s restaurants around the U.S. and Canada.

We'd like to extend a special thank you to Samantha, Courtney, and Mickia. In addition to the insights they shared, they also facilitated a Personal Branding Workshop for the Pathways Scholars. This workshop delved into the importance of personal branding and emphasized how students can shape their image, network, and portfolio.
Kickoff Meeting with Scarlet and Grey Sponsors

September 8th, 2023

Representatives from several of the program sponsors met with the scholars to welcome them to the program and provide an overview of their respective company. Molly Miller facilitated a Q&A session with the representatives.
Pathways Scholars participate in The Supply Chain Hackathon

September 22-23, 2023

Congratulations to Pathways Scholars Hanna Faulkner, Maggie Slack, Lily Smiley and Sarah Zouaoui for winning the Supply Chain Hackathon Undergraduate Category. The hackathon kicked off the evening of Thursday, September 21 with the students being introduced to and trained on the use of the software program, anyLogistix. On the evening of September 22nd, they were presented with the scenario they had to resolve, to analyze and explain the current state of a growing company’s current network, their forecasted demand, and multiple different network possibilities of adding new distribution centers. They also had to decide which possibility they believed was the most optimal for the sustainability and profit of the company.

Sarah Zouaoui said “participating in the Hackathon competition was a challenging but rewarding experience. Being time-constrained in developing a presentation from the software we learned the day before was a learning curve for all of us. I gained a lot from this opportunity and would unquestionably do it again.”

Congratulations again to Hanna, Maggie, Lily and Sarah!

Another special shoutout to Rhea Reddy, a 2022-2023 Pathways Scholar, who participated in the undergraduate category with another student and placed second!

The Pathways team worked in Schoenbaum Hall until 12:20 a.m., Saturday, returned at 8 a.m. and worked through early afternoon to finish their data and presentation. They presented to a panel of judges that afternoon. The four scholars who are all one month in to their freshman year had never worked with any type of supply chain analytics software and have not had a supply chain class.

Maggie Slack said, “I feel that my learning of supply chain has been accelerated by this experience. The real-world example exposed me to the complexity of supply chain networks and the many different approaches that can be taken in order to optimize them. I had a great experience participating in the Supply Chain Sustainability Hackathon. Over this weekend, we learned many valuable skills with the help of supportive faculty mentors, who did a great job of presenting the software and guiding us along the way. I also enjoyed working with a driven and creative team that I formed lasting friendships with.”
Peer Mentor Spotlight – Alaina Croskey

Alaina Croskey is a 4th year in Fisher College of Business majoring in Management Information Systems and minoring in Spanish and Design Thinking.
She was a Scholar as a 1st year student in 2020-21, a peer mentor last year, and is super excited to serve as a lead peer mentor this year!

She had the opportunity to intern at JP Morgan Chase & Co. at the Polaris Office in Columbus, Ohio this summer and was a part of the Consumer Bank Strategy & Process Improvement team! She is beyond excited to be returning back next summer for full-time in the Corporate Analyst Development Program!

"I’m SO grateful for Pathways! Not only did I develop valuable professional skills through company visits, networking events, and mentoring meetings, but I was introduced by Molly to multiple JPMC employees and current CADP analysts that helped me and prepared me for the opportunity ahead!
I had the best team at my internship and woke up every morning excited to go to work.
I LOVE giving back to the Pathways Program and the ability to make such a big impact in the lives of young women at Ohio State!
The best advice I can give is to define the core values in your life and do your best to live them out every day!"

JPMC Student Programs:
Corporate Mentor Spotlight – Kalyn Hawkins

Kalyn is a current alum of OSU Fisher College of Business. She graduated in 2021 with a degree in Operations Management with a minor in Environment, Economy, Development and Sustainability.

"I was part of the Pathways program from 2017-2018 and am super excited to be going full circle as a corporate mentor for this academic year!

I had the opportunity to be an Intern with Sherwin Williams after my Freshman and Sophomore year and interned with EcoLab after my junior year. During my senior year, I accepted a full-time offer with DHL Supply Chain as an Operations Supervisor where I have been for the last 2 years!

I am forever grateful for Pathways and the experiences that I had during my first year. The corporate mentorship program was a huge factor in my first two internship experiences and gave me the professional skills to set me up for success in all three of my internships and current role. Prior to joining the program, Supply Chain was an unfamiliar idea, but I left my first year wanting to pursue a career in this field!”
Past Scholar Spotlight – Abi Baldwin

Abi Baldwin is a 4th year majoring in Operations Management and minoring in EEDS which stands for Environment, Economy, Development, and Sustainability. She was a scholar in her second year at OSU and has received many career opportunities due to her participation in the program.

She interned at Williams Sonoma’s distribution center in Memphis during her second year of college. This past summer she interned at Nordstroms Supply Chain Headquarters and worked on the Nordstrom Rack Supply Chain Team. Next summer, she will be returning to Nordstrom for a full-time role as a product specialist!

“I am so thankful I was a Pathways Scholar! Before this program, I was completely unsure of my major and didn’t even know what networking was. Through Pathways I learned so much about the importance of connecting with other people and how to be confident when building a network. I had amazing opportunities to take part in internships, projects, and networking events that all taught me so much. Because of this program I have had amazing experiences and met incredibly inspiring women. All this led me to realize how much I love operations management and helped me get my dream job post-graduation! I advise all pathways scholars to take full advantage of the program. Take time to connect with the sponsors, mentors, your peers, and don’t be afraid to ask for help or try something new!”
Newsletter 1 Recap

August 22 – First Day of Classes!
August 25 – Pathways Orientation / QSCC Campus Presentation
September 6 – Fisher Fall Career Fair
September 6 - Pathways Reception for Scarlet Sponsors, current and former Scholars at the O on Lane
September 7 – The Logistics Association Career Fair
September 8 – Kickoff Meeting with Scarlet and Grey Sponsors
September 15 – Professional Headshots by Cerena Dawson – Thank you Cerena!
September 22-23 – Supply Chain Hackathon

Birthdays!!

August 4 – Reese H.
August 4 – Reese B.
August 9 – Hannaniah M.
August 24 – Jasmine M.
August 31 – Cerena D.
September 5 – Sarah Z.
October 16 - Saiyami P.

What’s coming up?

October 6 – Nordstrom Campus Presentation
Let’s get connected!

Want to be featured in the next newsletter?

• Submit a quote here!
• Submit photos from Pathways events or with other scholars or mentors here!
• Reach out to Alaina @ Croskey.39@osu.edu if you’d like to be featured

Join our LinkedIn Group here!

Ohio State Buckeyes - Ohio State vs. Youngstown
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 the opportunities to engage with industry executives in a mentoring capacity.

Dr. Kenneth K. Boyer, Fisher Designated Professor  
Dr. Mi Kyong Newsom, Lean Six Sigma Academic Director, Clinical Assistant Professor  
Prof. Bonnie Schroeder, Senior Lecturer  
Prof. Whitney Mantonya, Senior Lecturer  
Molly Miller, Program Manager

Learn more at:  
[go.osu.edu/PathwaysforWomeninSupplyChain](go.osu.edu/PathwaysforWomeninSupplyChain)