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For immediate release

Ouachita's Genie Ashcraft named Support Staff Member of the Year

By Katelyn Myers

April 19, 2019

For more information, contact OBU's news bureau at newsbureau@obu.edu or (870) 210-5208

ARKADELPHIA, Ark.—Genie Ashcraft, administrative assistant to the dean of Ouachita Baptist University's Huckabee School of Education, has been named Ouachita's 2019 Support Staff Member of the Year. Ashcraft, who has worked at Ouachita for 12 years, was recognized on March 27 by Ouachita's Staff Development Committee and President Ben Sells.

"I was surprised and honored to receive this award knowing that there are many others at Ouachita who deserve it, too," Ashcraft said. "I hope I can continue to represent Ouachita in a positive way for years to come."

A Pine Bluff native, Ashcraft first worked at another university for six years before deciding to stay at home with her child and work part-time. When Ashcraft decided to re-enter the workforce, a close friend informed Ashcraft of an opening in Ouachita's education school. Ashcraft said she cannot imagine herself working anywhere else.

"It did not take long for me to recognize Genie's high level of ability and the education faculty's equally high level of respect for her," said Dr. Jeff Root, dean of the Huckabee School of Education. "My appreciation for Genie's ability to handle anything and everything I have asked her to do has grown each year."

Jason Tolbert, Ouachita's chief financial officer and chair of the Staff Development Committee, said the award is presented annually to a staff member nominated by faculty and fellow staff members.

"The selection is based on a support staff member who has demonstrated outstanding performance in job assignments, relating positively to students and co-workers and supporting the mission of the university," Tolbert said.

For more information, contact Ouachita's Office of Administrative Services at (870) 245-5410.

