

UI Staff Council
Wednesday, March 20, 2024
2:30 – 4:30 pm
Hybrid: 2520-D UCC & via Zoom

Present

Jerusalem Alleyne, Neda Barrett, Josey Bathke, Brian Baxter, Amanda Bibb, Maria Bruno, Bradley Carson, Nima Chaudhary, Brett Cloyd, Dawn Coffman, Richard Dvorsky, Monica Dreyer Rossi, Chandler Easley, Hunter Floyd, Glen Fuhrmeister, Jadvyga Gerasimovic, Anne Hinkle, Michele Hogue, Erika Holm-Brown, Jordan Immerfall, Makur Jain, Molly James, Hilary Jensen, James Jorris, Jackie Kleppe, Lindsay Lansberry, Sarah Livesay, Sam Mitchell, Brian Morelli, Evans Ochola, Jamie O'Meara, Sam Patel, Tammy Paulus, Yelena Perkhounkova, Molly Rechkemmer, Vickie Roesner, Rubia Ruiz, Teri Schnelle, Tony Senio, Mary Shumaker, Sonia Slevinski, Warren Staal, David Stenersen, Bridget Toomey, Santhana Velupillai, Heath Vignes, Jessica Welter, Darrelle Wilkinson, Jennifer Yoder.

Absent

Ashley Peters, Lin Shuhui, Kathleen Tandy, Donna Wong-Gibbons.

Administrative Liaison

Kellie Digmann, Cheryl Reardon.

Presenters

Joe Bilotta, Justin Fraase, Bronwyn Threlkeld-Wiegand.

Guests

Nelson Ali, Steven Anderson, Jessie Cunningham, Jade Davis, Brenda Dee, Jenny Dix, Janet Duncan, Jody Fisher, Andrea French, Laura Goddard, Brittany Grabe, Deb Henricks, Tanesha Herman, Stephen Hoffman, Renee Houser, Vicki Jaeger, James Kurtzleben, Corey Landstrom, Bob Manders, Ashley March, Taylor Miller, Shonda Monette, Jess Muschaweck, Willa Oddleifson, Joelle Petersen, Lily Phonphiboun, Kristine Pinter, Gina Pottorff, Debbie Ross, Blake Rupe, Diane Schaeffer, Jean Spiesz, Kim Stoltz, Svetha Swaminathan, Rachel Tortora, Chad Warrick, Linda Wilson, Mallory Zitek.

Minutes

February Staff Council Minutes approved.

Meeting

Jorris introduced new Staff Council members. Glen Fuhrmeister, a collegiate events specialist, joined as the org rep for the College of Business. Hunter Floyd, an admin services coordinator, joined as the org rep for the College of Dentistry.

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Jorris also recognized Kellie Digmann, SC admin service coordinator, for her 10-year anniversary at the University of Iowa.

Jorris next provided an overview of the 3Cs framework for Staff Council.

- Collaborate: SC is elevating the 24/7 UI Support and Crisis Line and also met with the UIHC Leadership.
- Celebrate: SC recognized Employee Appreciation Day and the Celebration of Excellence & Achievement Among Women (April 3).
- Communicate: SC promoted the Men's basketball discounted tickets, University of Iowa 2024 HR and Business Conference Leadership Award announcement, UISC Food Pantry Drive, and Discover Your University.

Discover Your University – Fraase

Fraase presented on the Discover Your University program, which exists to raise awareness among faculty and staff of distinct programs across campus. DYU supports a culture of belonging and understanding through tours of the programs during specific DYU days. University policy supports faculty and staff using work time to participate in two visits per years. Among survey respondents, 90% somewhat or strongly agree DYU expands connections to campus. The 2024 slate is expected to include five dates: Thursday, April 18, Tuesday, May 21, Wednesday, June 19, along with tentative dates in September and October. Examples of upcoming tours include the Lions Eye Bank, Kinnick Stadium, the Beckwith Boat House, and the Driving Safety Research Institute. Employees may register for a tour at Employee Self-Service > My Career > My Training. Tours are first come, first served.

Well-Being Update: Resilience & Mental Health – Threlkeld-Wiegand

Threlkeld-Wiegand highlighted resource in support of mental health. One program was the UI support and crisis line. This is a service co-sponsored by Division of Student Life, Office of the Provost, and University Human Resources. This 24-7 service is available via phone or text at 844-461-5420 as well as online chat via the website <https://mentalhealth.uiowa.edu/ui-support-and-crisis-line>. Staff can also be reached at Mentalhealth@uiowa.edu.

The office supports several trainings. Visit the EAP office online to learn more: <https://hr.uiowa.edu/employee-well-being/ui-employee-assistance-program>.

- Mental health training for supervisors. Learn more at <https://hr.uiowa.edu/development/supervisor-training-toolbox>.
- Several peer training opportunities are available: QPR, UIHC COPE Peer Support Trainings, Helping the Distressed Student (Scanlan), Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) @Library, ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Training) (Scanlan), R U OK (peer to peer support training).

Midyear Committee Progress Reports

- Education (Immerfall): A significant accomplishment has been the creation of a video overview of Staff Council to provide to every new UI employee as part of onboarding. The

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video is nearly complete. The mentorship program is active and ongoing. The committee also added a midyear SC orientation refresher to its workload.

- Elections (Jain): They partnered with bylaws and executive committees to increase the SC size related to behavioral health, manage the replacement of vacancies, and planning for the UIHC downtown campus addition.
- Health Care (Holm-Brown): A large portion of their work was focused on the merger of UIHC and Mercy Iowa City. In addition, the committee continued a commitment to growing the relationship with UI Health Care leadership.
- HR (Coffman): Committee has focused on increasing awareness for the catastrophic leave bank, including working with the family charter committee. HR has worked with the executive committee to draft the Tuition Assistance Program proposal.
- Merit Supervisory Exempt (Senio): The committee conducted a survey to gather input from MSEC staff, prepared RISCAC statement, and communicated with external institutions.
- University Relations (Cloyd): The committee held a forum with state legislators in collaboration with faculty senate and has a second planned for April. This would be in collaboration with graduate and undergrad students. The committee is planning for the Hawkeye Caucus on April 3, has been meeting with local shared governance units across campus, and has been leading SC involvement in the Big Ten collaborative, including welcoming four new universities to the conference.

Elections – Jain

Jain provided an overview of the upcoming elections. Nominations for function reps seats are open until April 1. There will be 15 seats on the ballot. Jain provided an overview of SC. SC represents regular employees not represented by bargaining units. There are 38 function reps and 21 org reps. Additional org rep seats are also up for election, but those are managed by the organization rather than SC. The purpose of SC is to advocate daily on behalf of staff, advise on policies, promote the work of staff and work of SC, and collaborate with shared governance across campus.

Jain next provided an overview of the executive committee, which is made up of SC members elected by peers. The executive committee meets with the university president and provost, among other campus leaders, and votes on distribution of the Coca-Cola funds. This spring, there will be an election for six executive seats.

- President elect is a three year commitment with the first year serving as an apprentice to the president, the second year president, and the third year in a transition role as past president. Jain estimates the role takes up about 4-6 hours per week.
- Secretary is a one year commitment. Morelli provided an overview. Secretary keeps minutes for the SC regular meetings and executive meetings, attends shared governance meetings, and meetings with SC from other regent universities. Secretary also sits on the executive committee and is able to weigh in.

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- There are four at-large seats. The at large seats are a one year term and attends meeting with the executive committee. At-large members do not have additional specific duties such as minutes and budget.

Jain proceeded to take nominations for the seats:

President-elect

Brian Morelli
Molly James
Neda Barrett

Secretary

Brett Cloyd
Molly James
Shuhui Lin

At large

Anne Hinkle
Josey Bathke
Dawn Coffman
Neda Barrett
Sam Mitchell
Molly James
Maria Bruno
Nima Chaudhary
Donna Wong-Gibbons
Jordan Immerfall
Bridget Toomey
Jerusalem Alleyne
Jennifer Yoder
Hillary Jensen

University Master Planning Efforts – Bilotta

Bilotta explained that each dean submits their facilities priorities. Those are meshed at the provost office level and refined. This occurs each spring. Metrics are used to guide prioritization and allocation of resources. The “SPARK team” has been assembled to examine research space on campus.

Top priorities for modernization include buildings on the Pentacrest, specifically Maclean Hall, followed by Jessup and Macbride. Calvin Hall and North Hall are also on the list. The old art building will be restored and will likely house Graduate College services, specifically a space for students, early childhood education center, and planning and public affairs. That is likely to begin next spring coming back to life. Planning for the renovation of the performing arts building (formerly theater building) is scheduled to begin in the fall. The Iowa Advanced

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Technology Lab will be renovated to better use office space and will also see an addition. The Department of Computer Science will move there. Halsey Hall and West Lawn will be razed. The Health Science Building is under construction next to the Gerdin Center. A major, multi-party project on the horizon is replacing the Burlington Street Bridge.

Community Outreach Update

The Shelter house book sale is scheduled for March 23-24. The Food Pantry donation drive is March 4-27, and there are 11 drop locations around campus. United Way Volunteer website can be found at <https://www.unitedwayjwc.org/volunteer-express>.

DEI Committee Update

Upcoming campaigns include Women's History Month, Disability Awareness Month, National Deaf History Month. March 27 is the One Day for Iowa fundraising drive. April 9 is the Diversity and Welcoming Celebration.

Adjournment

Jorris adjourns the meeting.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, April 10, 2024
2:30-4:30 p.m.
Hybrid: MERF 2189 & via Zoom