

# IOWA

## 2024-25 UI Staff Council Year-End Recap

**Impact in Action – Reflecting on a Year of Impact**

James Jorris, Staff Council President



»»» REVIEW.

»»» PRACTICE.

»»» SUCCEED.

# Councilor Volunteer Impact

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34



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Councilors  
Volunteered

33



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Total Volunteer  
Opportunities

529.8



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Total Volunteer  
Hours

*28 councilors participated in at least 2 volunteer activities*







# Staff Council Funding & Investment in Staff

Staff Council invested over \$75,000 to recognize, support, and develop university staff.

**\$22,500**

**Mary Jo Small  
Fellowship**

UISC awarded  
\$16,281,  
impacting 50  
staff & faculty  
members across  
the university

**\$28,260**

**Staff Appreciation  
Grants**

UISC awarded  
\$28,260,  
impacting 11,283  
staff members  
across the  
university

**\$14,000**

**Staff Council  
Awards**

UISC awarded  
\$14,000,  
impacting 18  
staff & faculty  
members across  
the university

**\$15,537**

**Strategic Fund  
Allocation**

UISC allocated  
\$15,537 in  
additional funds  
to support  
established  
programs &  
directly award  
applicants

# UI Staff Council Success: Health & Well-Being

Led the development and implementation of the **UI Health Care Attendance Policy**, initiated by health care councilors

Collaborated monthly with **UI Mental and Holistic Wellness** staff through Staff Council meeting presentations

Collected **420 lbs.** of food as numerous monetary donations during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual UISC Donation Drive for the **Pantry@Iowa**

**Represented Staff Council at the UI Health and Well-Being Fair**, connecting directly with staff to promote resources and support



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# Engagement Highlights: Communications & Growth

**Shared 54 articles and resources** with constituents throughout the year, including **5 staff spotlights** and **7 featured Staff Councilors**

Achieved a **40.4% open rate** on our monthly newsletter, reaching **9,000+ staff** — a **+3.9% increase** from the previous year

**Shared 35 social media posts** and **doubled our online following**, helping amplify **staff voices** and council activity

From June 2023 to May 2025, UI **Staff Council website engagement increased** significantly, with website traffic **jumping 32.1%** compared to 2023–24.



## Staff Spotlight: Rachel F. Marek

Rachel F. Marek works to reduce human exposure to toxic chemicals through research, student support, and community collaboration.

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## Advocacy in Action Your Voice for a Better UI

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# Engagement Highlights: Campus & Legislative Outreach

Meeting attendance rose from 960 to 1,105 — a **15.1%** increase, supported by monthly staff invites and **Iowa NOW** promotions.

**Hosted 39 guest speakers and topics** at monthly meetings, increasing visibility and engagement across campus.

Visited **8 collegiate Staff Councils**, including CLAS, to **share our mission, build relationships**, and **increase awareness** of Staff Council.

Staff Council engaged with local, state, and federal legislators, participating in **Hawkeye Caucus Day** and hosting **on-campus legislative forums** to amplify staff voices and strengthen advocacy efforts.



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# Recognition & Institutional Support

Celebrated campus excellence with **41** Staff Council Award nominations and **18** deserving staff and faculty recognized as award recipients.

Supported career growth through the **Career Pathways** Group and an **Executive Leadership** project on staff recruitment and retention.

Evaluated **53** applications and recommended **14** members to serve on University Charter Committees.

Our statement has been shared **3 times** this year and adopted as a template by peer institutions, including The Ohio State University.

*These efforts reflect Staff Council's ongoing commitment to uplifting and amplifying staff contributions across campus.*

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Hi James,

I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere appreciation for your support. During our last Big Ten Staff Advisory Council meeting, I asked about how other organizations are communicating with staff during these challenging times. You generously shared the letter of support that the Staff Council sent to the University of Iowa, and it truly resonated with our committee.

We found your wording especially impactful, and with review and approval from our legal and government affairs teams, we incorporated some of your language into a letter we shared with staff today and posted on our [website](#).

Thank you for the inspiration and guidance. I hope you and your staff are staying strong during these difficult times.

Thank you,



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Pronouns: she/her/hers

Chair, [University Staff Advisory Committee](#) (USAC)



# Campus & Community Impact

Partnered with United Way to co-host the first-ever UI Campaign Kickoff and promote staff-centric service opportunities across campus.

Staff Council presented a check on behalf of UI faculty and staff, who donated over **\$30,982.70** to **Dance Marathon** in support of pediatric cancer patients and their families.

Built stronger relationships with **Iowa Health Care leadership**, collaborating on shared concerns and achieving key goals together.

Served on multiple **campus advisory committees**, contributing to discussions on **campus safety, pathways**, and other key initiatives.



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University of Iowa  
Staff Council

*Together, we Celebrated,  
Communicated,  
Collaborated – and Made  
a Difference*

**Thank you for your time, talents, & leadership**

