

UI Staff Council
Wednesday, March 8, 2023
2:30 – 4:30 pm
2520D UCC and Zoom

Present

Alleyne, Jerusalem; Askling, Wendy; Barrett, Neda; Baxter, Brian; Blair, Damien; Bojin, Mihaela; Butler, Robert; Carson, Bradley; Chaudhary, Nima; Cloyd, Brett; Coffman, Dawn; Dreyer-Rossi, Monica; Follmer, Carl; Gerasimovic, Jadvyga; Hinkle, Anne; Hogue, Michele; Holm-Brown, Erika; Hopson, Greg; Immerfall, Jordan; Jain, Makur; James, Molly; Jorris, James; Kleppe, Jackie; Lavery, John; Livesay, Sarah; Mitchell, Sam; Morelli, Brian; Ochola, Evans; O'Connell, Debra; O'Meara, Jamie; Paulus, Tammy; Perkhounkova, Yelena; Peters, Ashley; Piper, Lisa; Potter, Ted; Rechkemmer, Molly; Scandrett, Kelby; Schnelle, Teri; Staal, Warren; Stenersen, David; Tandy, Kathleen; Welter, Jessica; Wilkinson, Darrelle; Wong, Donna; Zihlman, Kevin.

Absent

Bruno, Maria; Dvorsky, Richard; Girazian, Zach; Mason, Mark; Patel, Sam; Pritchard, Tracey; Ruiz, Rubia; Schumaker, Mary; Slevinski, Sonia; Yoder, Jennifer

Guests

Troester, Joni; Carr, Lucas; Cuchna, Melanie; Marcussen, Britt; Fountain, Diane; Henricks, Deb; Hintermeister, Bridgette; Jelinek, Travis; Jensen, Amanda; Jones, Nancy; Macdonald, Gavin; Mattix, Amy; Maurer, Tara; Moss, Kim; Muschaweck, Jessica; Oh, Paul; Sigler, Dani; Sullivan, Eileen; Taylor, Carrie; Venenga, Christa; Whittaker, Carrie.

Administrative Liaison

Digmann, Kellie; Reardon, Cheryl.

Minutes

February Executive Committee minutes and February Staff Council minutes were received without comment or changes. February SC minutes approved unanimously. (Lavery motioned. Seconded by Chaudhary)

Meeting

Well-Being Topic – Exercise is Medicine/Exercise as a Vital Sign Campus Collaborations Highlight

Lucas Carr, Associate Professor, Health & Human Physiology, provided an overview of the concept of exercise as a form of medicine. This is a research area for Prof. Carr. Physical inactivity is linked to increased risk of health hazards, such as high blood pressure, depression, diabetes, inflammation, and anxiety. This relationship was noticed with worse outcome of COVID-19, including increased chances of hospitalization, admission to ICU and even death. Carr is working to establish data points for exercise as a form of health care, including as a treatment. There is a pilot study due to be launched in UI Family Medicine clinics. The initiative includes screening for physical inactivity at every visit, providing patients with exercise prescription or counseling to meet exercise guidelines, and/or referral to community-based resources for additional physical

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activity counseling. Part of the pilot includes alerts through Epic to clue in health care providers if a patient is not meeting physical activity standards. The hope is to prove the efficacy of exercise as medicine and expand it to other clinics.

HR Update – Discover Your University

Justin Fraase, of University Human Resources, provided an overview of the campaign intended to better inform campus community members of the wide variety of distinct programs and offerings around campus. The campaign includes visit days in which faculty and staff can sign up to tour one of the designated sites on that day. During the fall 2022 pilot phase nearly 300 people took part in a Discover Your University tours. 91% of survey respondents agreed the event increased awareness of campus. Organizers are planning spring and fall dates for the next round of visit days. Engineering Technology Center and Driving Safety Research Institute are scheduled as host sites for April 13. The State Hygienic Lab and the Trademark Licensing Program are scheduled for May 17. Hancher Auditorium, Hawkeye Tennis Recreation Center, and the Main Library Gallery are scheduled for June 20.

Organizers are seeking additional sites to add for each visit day. Staff Council can help promote by identifying additional host sites and directing people to sign up in Self Service>My Career>My Training. Mass promotion on campus will begin in coming weeks.

- More information: <https://hr.uiowa.edu/administrative-services/current-initiatives/discover-your-university>

2022 Campus Climate Survey Findings to the Staff Council

Isandra Martinez-Marrero, Director of Cultural Engagement & Analytics, Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, provided an overview of findings. The survey is administered every two years and intended to evaluate perceptions of DEI on campus. Findings included 79% of staff feel valued, and 50% of staff respondents seriously considered leaving the university in the last year. Of those better salary was a factor for 63%, departmental climate was a factor for 60%, career advancement was a factor for 44%). Other findings included 86% feel UI has a strong commitment to DEI, 37% feel there is too much emphasis on DEI, 28% feel attention to DEI is distracting from academic mission, and 35% have experienced bias in the last 6 months.

- Find more information: <https://diversity.uiowa.edu/data/campus-climate>

Dementia Friends

Brady Curran, Program Coordinator for Iowa Geriatric Education Center, explained the Dementia Friends program's efforts to destigmatize dementia. They are seeking units and departments to become "Dementia Friends." This requires a one hour program to review information.

Information and resources are available at

- <https://dementiafriendsusa.org/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x9g0oK2G9x8>

Officer Election Nominations

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James Jorris, Staff Council VP/President Elect presented on upcoming officer elections and urged members to consider running. People can nominate themselves or others. The positions up for election include Secretary, 4 At Large Officers, a Budget Officer (2 year term), and President-Elect (3 year term). The officers serve on the Staff Council Executive Committee. Obligations include a more regular slate of meetings including monthly meetings with the UI President, Provost, and Executive Committee. Officers also help decide how to allocate Coke Funds by reviewing funding requests. The role also comes with an increased time commitment.

To nominate someone go to <https://workflow.uiowa.edu/entry/new/11609/13607910>

DEI Update

Neda Barrett reviewed efforts to increase use of personal pronouns to create a more inclusive environment on campus. In addition there is a DEI celebration scheduled for March 27. Staff Council members are encouraged to attend in person while campus at large is invited to participate via Zoom.

Check DEI website for other upcoming DEI events: <https://diversity.uiowa.edu/>

Outreach Update

Molly James highlighted recent volunteerism for to Dance Marathon and upcoming volunteer opportunities including the Hope Lodge Coral Concert and Staff Council Food Drive March 6-24.

Other Business

New Staff Council member Jerusalem Allayne, a research specialist, was introduced as the new org rep for the State Hygienic Lab.

Adjournment

Kleppe adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

Next Meeting

April 5, 2023
2:00-4:00 pm
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