STAFF SENATE NEWS
December-January 2016

Annual Staff Award Nominations Open

Annual Staff Award nominations are now open for 2016. Award recipients will be honored at the 2017 Staff Recognition Day on April 10, 2017. UW Staff Senate invites all members of the campus community to nominate individuals. Nominations close Tuesday, February 28, 2017.

Below is the list of the Annual Staff Awards. Click on the award title for more information and links to the nomination forms:

- **E.G. Meyer Family Award**: Honors two current UW staff members (one non-exempt and one exempt) who show initiative, helpfulness, dependability, and a positive and cheerful demeanor.

- **Employee of the Year Award**: Recognizes a UW Staff member for his or her efforts towards excellence in the workplace. Recipient must be a current calendar year employee of the quarter.

- **Jody K. Humphrey Inspirational Staff Award**: Honors current UW Staff members who inspire people to do their best, remain positive under stressful conditions, serve as a positive role model to others, show eagerness toward the job, display a cheerful attitude toward customers, and motivate self and others.

- **Staff Incentive Award**: Honors three current, full-time benefited UW staff members who display exemplary incentive in performing their duties.

- **Unsung Hero Full & Part Time Award**: Honors four classified UW staff members who are deserving of recognition for outstanding duties performed.

- **Off-Campus Award**: Honors two staff members who work off the main UW campus and display an outstanding attitude toward furthering the mission and goals of UW off-campus.

- **Pete Simpson Golden Gloves Award**: Recognizes one current staff Senate member who shows outstanding participation on their Staff Senate committee(s); participation at full Staff Senate meetings; outstanding ser-
vice for the Staff Senate causes including community projects, and strong representation to constituents.

- **Skilled Crafts Award**: Honors one current UW staff member who exemplifies outstanding work ethic and a positive attitude in the Physical Plant trades at UW.
- **Skilled Services/Maintenance Award**: Honors one current UW staff member who exemplifies outstanding work ethic and a positive attitude in Custodial, Maintenance, or Technician services.
- **Supervisor of the Year Award**: Honors one UW employee who is an outstanding supervisor to one or more classified staff members.

**Staff Senate Events**

**Holiday Food Drive**

UW Staff Senate recently held its 2016 Holiday Food Drive, which assists those University employees and their families that may need a little extra help during the holidays. Donations were collected from November 28 - December 16, and holiday food baskets were assembled December 19 and delivered to nine deserving families.

**Staff Recognition Day 2017**

The 2017 Staff Recognition Day, “Cowboy Oscars,” will be held Monday, April 10, at 10:00 a.m. in the Union Ballroom and Family Room.

This annual event honors the hard-working staff of the University of Wyoming and provides an opportunity for staff members to be shown how much they are appreciated for the work they do to keep UW and its facilities functioning and to provide a top-notch educational experience to thousands of students.

This event typically features:

- Door prizes,
- Years of Service recognition,
- 20 individual Staff Awards given out to outstanding UW staff members.

We are proud of the quality of work being done by UW staff members. We encourage both supervisors and colleagues to take a moment and nominate a deserving staff member today!

The UW Staff Senate Recognition Committee invites all UW staff to participate in the planning and hosting of SRD. You need not be a Staff Senate member to join in the fun! Contact staffsen@uwyo.edu for more information.

**Meet the President**

Staff Senate has scheduled another reception for UW staff to meet with President Nichols in February 2017. We will keep you updated on details as they become available.

**Staff Senate Legislative Report**

**Staff Senate Resolution 224** was passed in December 2016. It requests that the Employee Benefits Committee established by UW Reg. 1-2 be reconvened. The stated purpose of the committee is to “formulate, propose and review programs of fringe benefits relating to the economic status of faculty and staff, and to make recommendations to the Vice President for Administration.”

It is the hope of Staff Senate that having an active Employee Benefits Committee on campus that includes staff and faculty representation will facilitate communication between campus constituents and the administration as UW continues the process of readjusting employee benefits in order to realize cost savings and better align UW employee benefits with Wyoming state employee benefits.

**Resolution 223: Endorsement of Faculty Senate Resolution 333** was passed in the January 2017 meeting. It was authored by the Staff Senate Executive Committee and it endorses the request made in Faculty Senate Resolution 333 regarding the changes to UW Board Retirement that we enacted in June 2016.

**Resolution 227: Request for Development and Implementation of Employee Notification Policy** was also passed in the January meeting. It requests that UW enact a new policy requiring that status employees receive 30 days’ written notice prior to changes their terms of employment. This would include changes in job responsibilities, work hours, essential employee status, on-call status, and FLSA status.
Resolution 225: Request for Revision of Reasonable Accommodation Practices was deferred to a fourth reading, scheduled for the February meeting. Check out the Staff Senate website for more information on legislation and Senate activities.

Points to Ponder: Staff Position Audits
President Nichols has requested that the University of Wyoming temporarily postpone requests for individual position audits until full budgetary reviews and the FY18 budget reduction are complete. However, based on the Reorganization/Budget Reduction plans that were submitted to the President and approved by the Board of Trustees in November 2016, position audits will continue to take place in these impacted units.

A review of the temporary postponement and the procedures for requesting a position audit pursuant to an approved reorganization can be found by clicking here.

Resources
- HR Website
- Employee Handbook

Ask A Question: Tuition Waivers and Program Fees
Got a question of about the University of Wyoming or your employment here? Ask away at: staffsen@uwyo.edu.

QUESTION: “I am very concerned with the prospect that staff may have to start paying the additional program/class fees for our tuition fee waiver classes. This has been a very nice incentive, but I can’t afford to continue it if I have to pay hundreds of dollars for a course. So many other things have been taken, it would be a shame if this were an incentive in name only as well.”

ANSWER: To date, it is the understanding of UW Staff Senate that any new program fees instituted by UW will not be covered by the tuition waiver. Currently, the tuition policy states that: “Eligible individuals shall pay applicable student and course fees,” which would seem to indicate program fees would also be included. For the full tuition waiver policy, click here.

UW Staff Senate members have made and will continue to make inquiries about program fees and the tuition waiver benefit. Some senators are concerned that program fees could represent an undue burden on UW staff, especially since program fees are likely to be disproportionately assessed across campus. UW Staff Senate will keep constituents apprised of developments on this issue.

Did You Know?
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. Days of Dialogue JANUARY 28 - FEBRUARY 4, 2017
Through this annual week of programming, UW celebrates the continuing impact of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s life and ideals. The Martin Luther King Jr. Days of Dialogue (MLK DOD) tradition is intended to expand institutional awareness about issues of diversity and social justice, to foster an inclusive community, and to empower individuals to act in solidarity with marginalized communities.

The Days of Dialogue serve as a renewal of UW’s commitment to making campus a more welcoming and empowering place for people from different backgrounds, heritages, orientations, abilities, and perspectives.

Students, staff, faculty, alumni, and community members are invited to participate in MLK DOD events.

Albany County Library
Albany County library is in the midst of a reading challenge for teens and adults. The challenge runs through March 31st, and involves reading four (just four!) books from a variety of categories. You can win prizes, and maybe find a new book or genre to love. Grab a form on their website or at the library.

Also, the Friends of the Library will be holding their spring book sale starting on March 1. The book sale is a great time to stock up on books at great prices. They generally have a wide variety of fiction, along with non-fiction, cookbooks, children’s and young adult books, and some special editions for the collectors out there. More information can be found on their website.

Outdoor Program
The Outdoor Program has released their Spring 2017 schedule, and there’s something for everyone. From ice climbing in Rocky Mountain National Park to bike maintenance clinics, they’ve got a full schedule. They also rent winter and summer equipment for several activities for very reasonable prices. Check out their list and rates.

Know Your Senator: Alison Shaver
Senator Alison Shaver is Accountant for the Ecosystem Science & Management department of the College of Agriculture. Alison has been employed on campus since August 2009 and has worked in the Wyoming Fish and Wildlife Coop Unit as well as Kinesiology & Health. She is a lifelong Wyoming resident and loves the people and the lifestyle. Alison and her family love to get outside every chance they get and enjoy the outdoors. Alison would like UW Staff Senate continue to be a conduit of information between the administration and the staff to keep everyone informed.

UW Staff Senate congratulates Michele Peck in Academic Affairs, winner of the meat raffle, and Reggie Conerly in Dining Services, winner of the 50/50 raffle. Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets to support your Staff Senate! 