



Staff Senate Monthly Report
Wednesday, November 6, 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Holiday Market will be Friday, December 13th from 9:00 - 5:00 at the UW Conference Center. Currently working with the Office of the President on obtaining release time for Staff and Faculty to attend the event. The President's Office has allocated 1.5 hours of release time to attend the Holiday Market this year.
- Staff Recognition Day will be held Monday April 7th from 12:00 - 2:00. The Arena Auditorium will be used again. The event will look a little different this year, more to come.
- Employee of the 3rd quarter will be selected this week. Employee of the 4th quarter is open now and closes Friday, December 6th at 5:00 PM. Please spread the word and nominate a fellow staff member for their excellence in the workplace. The nomination form can be found on Staff Senate's website under awards and is also linked here - https://uwyo.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bIMOTxg5O3ky3Yi. You MUST have a minimum of three nominations per person in order to be considered.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

- A. General Counsel
 - a. Discussion on Title XI, XII, and IX
 - b. Recognizing free speech, harassment, and protest and the ability to navigate the difference within the confines of University policies.
 - c. Reminder of professionalism in written correspondence and the protection of private information that should remain protected. We are a public entity and should have transparency.
- B. Research and Economic Development Division
 - a. ORED is helping faculty and staff put together grant proposals, partnering for better efficiency, and helping with grant finding.
 - b. ORED has hired three individuals to help with pre-award, post-award, and grant management that will have individual college focus for the Hobbs Schools, College of Engineering, Physical Science, and College of Health Sciences. One additional hire will be made for the College of Agriculture, Life Sciences, and Natural Resources.
- C. Division of Operations – No report provided
- D. Government Affairs
 - a. Government Affairs had an opportunity to discuss priorities with Governor Mead which includes supplemental budget requests or exceptions to the budget that was passed this last year.

- b. Staff and faculty salary increases are the number one need and priority.
 - c. Reminder of UW Regulation 12-4 which describes the distinction between rights as an individual and as a representative of the university when it comes to state legislation.
 - d. Concern was raised by a senator of appropriate staffing levels with new facilities being constructed such as the dorms and aquatic center. Any concerns can be shared with Staff Senators who will bring them to the senate for further consideration.
- E. Student Affairs – No report provided
- F. Division of Budget and Finance – No report provided
- G. Human Resources –
 - a. Currently in the process of benefits open enrollment. If an individual does not have any changes they want made to their benefit selections, they do not need to do anything at this time.
 - b. The benefits fair was held November 7th.
 - c. The new salary matrix is being managed by Class Comp and HR. Salaries for the new matrix were determined by the use of the College and University Professional Association which is the gold standard for higher education compensation for staff, and thus was used as a benchmark.
 - d. A senator requested a member of Staff Senate be part of the peer group reviewing salaries for the new matrix.
- H. Foundation – No report provided

EXTERNAL LIAISON REPORTS

- A. ASUW – No report provided
- B. Faculty Senate – No report provided

STAFF SENATE UPDATES

- A. Tuition Waiver Form Feedback –
 - a. Four changes to the form.
 - b. Discussion of up to 6 credits or one class per semester with three semesters in the academic year as well as the possibility of release time to take the classes which is currently not available.
- B. Staff Senate Resolution #249 third and final reading.
 - a. Senator Grosinger read the third and final reading of Staff Senate Resolution #249.
 - b. Senators discussed proposed changes to include all types of dangerous weapons.
 - c. Senators were reminded that this resolution is not a regulation or law rather a consensus of opinion to be shared with administration and trustees.
 - d. The terminology of dangerous weapons vs concealed firearms was discussed and remained the same as the original resolution.
 - e. The word diversity was discussed, and it remains in the final wording of the resolution.
 - f. There was an amendment that made edits to the wording of page 2 line 4 to make it more consistent with the intent of the resolution.
 - g. Resolution 249 was passed.

STAFF SENATE REPORTS

A. Staff President Comeau

- a. Engagement Working Group met last week; President Comeau will serve as the Staff Senate Representative. The plan is to meet every other week.
- b. Office Associate first round interviews were held, currently working on references and will potentially bring one candidate to campus for a second interview.
- c. Town Hall was October 20th with President Seidel which had a good turnout.
- d. A meeting with Exe Administration and General Counsel will take place November 19th regarding regulations on concealed weapons and will then be shared with the Trustees for final determination.

B. Food Security Taskforce - Senator Monahan

- a. Food Security Task Force had a very successful giving day campaign.
- b. A main initiative is keeping the food cabinets across campus stocked, especially as we enter cold winter months and longer breaks like the Thanksgiving Holiday and then into the new semester.

C. Recognition Committee – Senator Vogt

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D. Staff Relations Committee – Senator Monahan

- a. The next meeting is scheduled for November 12th.
- b. Agenda items will include new salary matrix, staff reorg, and FLSA impacts.

E. Governance Committee – Senator Hand

- a. The committee has been meeting almost every other week to revise the rules and procedures.
- b. Next month they will present proposed changes to the senate.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Roberson, Member-at-Large