



Staff Senate Monthly Report
Wednesday, June 4, 2025

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Celebration for Tricia Olson, Employee of the 1st Quarter will be held on June 11th.
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ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

- A. President's Office – Jadeen Mathis, Public Relation Manager
 - a. President Seidel is considering the interim provost candidates and will take his selection to the Board of Trustees on June 18th. A public announcement will be made shortly thereafter.
 - b. Amy McLaughlin will begin as VP of IT on July 1st.
 - c. President Seidel will host a Deans & Cabinet retreat on June 10 to determine University priorities.
 - d. The new employee of the quarter recognition will be held June 11th for Tricia Olson, office associate.
- B. Academic Affairs – Mandy Gifford, Chief of Staff to the Provost/Executive VP
 - a. A committee has been established to help with the School of Computing reorganization. They will prepare a report to be ready by end of the month which will include faculty appointments, financial stability, budgets, staff functions, etc. The director will report directly to the provost. Interviews for the interim director have been held; the provost will make the final selection which will be announced soon. Changes will be effective on July 1st. The school will be located in Crane Hall.
 - b. Graduate Education VP Jim Ahern will be leaving UW June 16th. There was an open call for interested parties to serve as interim dean; review processes were followed. The provost will recommend the interim for Board of Trustee's approval in June.
 - c. A search committee is hiring a search firm and finalizing the position description for the new Dean of Engineering. The hope is to have the final hire be done by October/November.
- C. Division of Operations– Bill Mai, VP
 - a. The north dorm to be open by fall semester and ready for Saddle Up.
 - b. 15th Street will be available for move-in and then closed for a short while to finish work on the roundabouts.
- D. Student Affairs – Kate Fahey, Assistant to the VP
 - a. A search is being conducted for the Director for Wellness in the West.
- E. Human Resources – Bob Link, VP
 - a. The I-9 status processes improving.

- b. The talent team is available to help for new hires. Hiring deadlines will be shared.
- c. Graduate assistants that are staying on during the summer will need their employment extended.
- d. Employees have 30 days to elect benefits after their date of hire.
- e. Terminate student/part time employees that are no longer with UW.
- f. 2024 evaluations are 90% completed.
- g. The absence policy in the new employee handbook states that an employee who fails to appear for work and fails to notify the supervisor for three consecutive workdays will be considered to have abandoned the job and will be subject to termination. The need for a doctor's note may be a departmental decision.
- h. UW is not associated with the wellness program at the city rec center; however, HR is working with the city on other opportunities.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Staff Senate Retreat

- a. The Staff Senate Retreat will be July 22nd, 8:30 – 4:00. This is a mandatory in-person meeting (exceptions can be requested). Location to be determined.
- b. The planning committee will be President Elect Grosinger, Emilio Padilla, Senators Hand, Sorber, and Conner.
- c. New committee chairs will be elected during the retreat.

STAFF SENATE REPORTS

A. Staff Senate President – President Adam Comeau

- a. President Comeau will be representing staff at the Deans' Retreat next week.
- b. The last onboarding meeting with president elect Grosinger will be this week.
- c. This will be President Comeau's last Staff Senate meeting.

B. Treasurer – Senator Tori Henderson

- a. This will be Senator Henderson's last Staff Senate meeting.

C. Secretary - Senator Laura McGinley

- a. This will be Senator McGinley's last Staff Senate meeting.

D. Member at Large – Senator Ann Roberson

- a. This will be Senator Roberson's last Staff Senate meeting serving as member-at-large. She will continue to serve on Staff Senate representing District 14.

E. Recognition Committee – Senator Frankie Vogt

- a. This will be Senator Vogt's last Staff Senate meeting.
- b. The celebration for Tricia Olson, Employee of the 1st Quarter, will be held on June 11th. The reception will be held at the Physical Science Bldg. Calendar invites were sent to senators.

F. Governance Committee – Senator Mollie Hand

- a. The constituent list is updated.
- b. Senator Hand will be stepping down as governance chair but will work as an ex-officio.

- c. The by-laws to be reviewed/updated on even years.
- G. Athletics Planning Committee
 - a. This year had the largest number of athletic students graduating.
- H. Campus Safety – Senator Josef LeBeau
 - a. A meeting will be held next month
- I. Food Security Task Force – Senator Meghan Monahan
 - a. Senator Roberson will be taking over Senator Monahan’s role.
- J. Freedom of Expression Initiative – Senator Molly Hand
 - a. They are working on a speaking series for students, staff, and public that focus on productive discussions/dialogue.
- K. Public Art Committee, Senator Catherine Conard
 - a. Four art selections will be sent forward for the president’s approval.
- L. Shared Governance Working Group – President Elect Grosinger, Senators Tai Baker, and Seth Holmquist
 - a. The group met on Wednesday, May 14th and primarily discussed the governance of the meetings which will be held monthly. Feedback is requested on the video. The group is looking for examples of when shared governance has worked well and when it has not.
- M. 2025 State Laws Working Group – Steven Lupien
 - a. Meetings are held weekly on Thursdays. Information on firearms on campus, use of restrooms and locker rooms will be shared as available.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- A higher level of communication and engagement between the Faculty Senate and ASUW is encouraged. Staff Senate’s representation on Faculty Senate is important; if the VP is not able to go it would be wise to send an alternate. Also, we need to ensure that other senate/representatives are invited to Staff Senate meetings. Vice-President Elect Marquez plans to engage more fully than what has been done in the past.
- Staff Senate Chambers will be used for senate meetings going forward.
- Staff Senate may host a get-together to celebrate outgoing senators.

Respectfully submitted by Member at Large Senator Ann Roberson