Welcome from the Staff Senate President

Greetings UND Staff:

Fall semester is in full swing, and the weather is already starting to get a little bit cooler. Before long, the campus will be white again. It has already been a very busy semester around campus, with many new initiatives launched by President Kennedy. I am excited to lead Staff Senate for another year, and represent all of the staff at UND. We have truly tried to listen to the staff of UND by having our meetings be more informational, allowing for more opportunities to provide Staff Senate, University Senate and the Administration feedback on various topics, and to make sure that staff have a voice on essential committees across campus.

We strive to keep all the staff at UND connected. With that being said, I would like to personally invite each of you to a very important upcoming event, the Inauguration of UND’s twelfth President, Mark R. Kennedy. The ceremony will be taking place on Monday, October 10, 2016 at 2:00 PM at the Chester Fritz Auditorium, with a reception to follow at the Gorecki Alumni Center. Together as One UND, let’s show our support and pride for UND!

I want to take a quick opportunity to extend a BIG thank you to all of our past and current Staff Senators, as well as the many other staff on-campus who have helped serve in a variety of capacities on many different committees. Together, they have given so much of their time and talent this year to help make Staff Senate and UND a success. There will be many more opportunities in the future for staff to get involved in so many ways on-campus.

I look forward to continuing the work of Staff Senate and its great tradition at UND! Feel free to visit our website at UND.edu/staff-senate/ and leave your thoughts or concerns in the Suggestion Box, or reach out to one of your Senators.

Pam Henderson
Staff Senate President
Ali Moreland, Dean of Students office, was the 2015-2016 Staff Senate U-Shine of the year recipient. Ali’s nomination stated that she was leaving for lunch saw a man on the ground by Swanson Hall with a head wound. Turns out he had tripped on the curb and fell breaking his glasses. She immediately called 911 and administered pressure with a cloth to his head over his wound and waited until the ambulance arrived and took him to the hospital for stitches. She worried about him the whole evening and did some checking on him the next day to find out how he was doing. This was a true act of help and kindness on Ali’s part.

The U-Shine of the year award is presented to a UND staff member who demonstrates compassion and selfless-ness while helping others. The annual winner is selected from one of the twelve monthly winners.

Former Interim UND President Ed Schafer, Staff Senate President Pam Henderson, and Staff Senate Vice-President Amber Flynn presented Ali Moreland with the Annual U-Shine Award at the Staff Recognition Luncheon on Tuesday, May 10, 2016.

Cheri Williams is the 2015-2016 Staff Senator of the year. The award, presented annually, was developed by the Staff Recognition Committee in an effort to recognize the Staff Senator who promotes a spirit of unity and pride and represents Staff Senate in an exemplary manner through their vision, enthusiasm, dedication, and willingness to volunteer. The winner is presented with a desk clock as well as a plaque that is displayed in the Staff Senate display case at the Memorial Union. Congratulations Cheri!
“The University finds itself in a very interesting time of opportunity and challenges, and putting a concerted effort towards strategic planning is critical in moving forward as one UND,” says President Mark Kennedy.

The official launch of the collaborative strategic planning process was in August with the goal of having a preliminary outline of strategic intent by December and a complete plan by May of 2017. President Kennedy appointed his Cabinet to serve as a Steering Committee to provide broad base direction and ensure the process is moving forward in meeting timelines.

Critical to the success of strategic planning are appointees from University Senate, Staff Senate, and Student Government. Staff members on the planning committee, selected for participation by Staff Senate leadership, include Pam Henderson, Tiffany Ford, Carrie Herrig, Derek Sporbert, Jason Trainer, Amber Flynn and Chris Zygarlicke. A complete listing of membership can be viewed on the strategic planning website (UND.edu/strategic-planning). In addition, summary notes from the planning committee meetings are also posted on this site.

The strategic planning process was designed to allow for multiple points of campus review and input. Every member of the planning committee has the responsibility of communicating with and updating their constituent body.

President Mark Kennedy has provided the planning committee with direction asking us to focus on the purpose of serving as the chief opportunity engine for North Dakota and North Dakotans. He has cast a vision of becoming the premier flagship institution in the northern plains. This direction provides clarity to our process.

“To date, we have been working to pinpoint core values for the institution as well as determining metrics which will ultimately allow us to track our progress over time,” says committee member and Staff Senate President Pam Henderson. She goes on to say “there has been great interaction and debate so far, and I look forward to representing the Staff and lending our voices to the strategic vision of the University.”

The focus of the upcoming October 5 meeting will be to refine the core values, appoint data and engagement working groups, and ensure the planning committee has a foundational understanding of metrics to support the purpose and vision. As strategic initiatives are identified additional working groups will be formed consisting of membership from the planning committee with the potential to add additional individuals beyond the planning committee.

Invitation to participate in UND’s Presidential Inauguration

The Inauguration of
MARK R. KENNEDY
as the Twelfth President of the University
MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2016
Chester Fritz Auditorium
University of North Dakota Campus, Grand Forks
Installation Ceremony
Two o’clock in the Afternoon
Reception after the ceremony at the Gorecki Alumni Center
Invitation and more details to follow
UND.edu/inauguration

Save the Date
State Employee Recognition Week

The University of North Dakota’s Staff Senate Employee Recognition Committee organized and held State Employee Recognition Week September 12th – September 16th, 2016. University staff and faculty were invited to a Taco in a Bag Luncheon on Tuesday, September 13th and over 425 attendees participated. This year several Administrators from the University, including President Kennedy, assisted with the event and helped serve staff and faculty at the luncheon.

The overnight staff was invited to Breakfast on the morning of Wednesday, September 14th and there were over 80 in attendance for a delicious breakfast highlighted by made-to-order omelets in the new Wilkerson Commons Dining Center.

Our Pie and Ice Cream Social on Thursday, September 15th had a great turnout and around 45 pies and 6 gallons of ice cream were consumed.

Thank you to everyone who helped make these events possible.

The President’s Office, Division of University & Public Affairs, University Federal Credit Union, Staff Senate, University Senate, UND Facilities, UND Dining Services, UND Work Well, UND Bookstore, and the Vice President of Academic Affairs. Planning was provided by the Staff Senate Staff Recognition Committee.
Save the Date - Denim & Diamonds

Looking for a Night Out?

Then get out your jeans and bling and consider attending UND Staff Senate’s annual Denim & Diamonds celebration, Friday, October 28, 2016 from 7-11:00 pm at the Gorecki Alumni Center. This is a celebration open to all staff, faculty, and Grand Forks community members. For just $15, you can dance to live music, snack on delicious appetizers and desserts, sip on beverages from the cash bar, try your hand at mock gaming, and bid on silent auction items totaling in value over $10,000. There will also be an opportunity to purchase chance spots for a sparkling diamond ring, donated by ICON Architects. Check out our Facebook page www.facebook.com/UNDStaffSenate to see some of the items that will appear on the silent auction. New items are added daily!

For tickets, contact Lori Shafer at lori.shafer@UND.edu or 777-2489. This has been a sell-out event in the past, so make sure you get your tickets soon. For more information, go to UND.edu/staff-senate/annual-events. All proceeds from the event go to support Seeds for Staff Success, a program that provides support for staff members wishing to pursue educational and professional development opportunities.

Potato Bowl Parade

Staff Senate float in the 2016 Potato Bowl Parade. Come see us at the Homecoming Parade on October 15, 2016.
UND Donates to St. Joseph’s Food Bank & Salvation Army

The UND Staff Senate Community Relations Committee held a food drive in September. Donations went to St. Joseph’s Food Bank and the Salvation Army. Between the two delivery sites, UND donated over 1,000 lbs of food.

Thank you to all who donated in this critical time of need for the Grand Forks Community.

Pictured with UND Staff Senators Patricia Reed (Community Relations Committee Chair) and Pam Henderson (President) are JoAnn Brundin (Executive Director) and Maria LeBlanc from St. Joseph’s Social Care & Thrift Store.

Staff Senators Deliver Meals-on-Wheels

On September 22nd, 2016 Diane Hillebrand and Patricia Reed, representing UND Staff Senate, helped deliver hot meals for Meals on Wheels for the Grand Forks Senior Center Community Champions event. Regarding the event, Becky Cournia (Development Officer for the Grand Forks Senior Center) said:

Senior hunger is a very real issue in Grand Forks and it is critically important that our community leaders have a first-hand experience.

In 2014, the Grand Forks Senior Center began holding a Community Champions Week twice a year. This is an opportunity for community and business leaders to learn more about senior hunger, the needs of homebound older adults and how the Meals on Wheels program addresses these issues.

After volunteering, you quickly understand the many reasons behind senior hunger, including: lack of money, inability to prepare meals because of poor health or general frailty associated with aging, recovery from surgeries or falls, and more.

Ending senior hunger is only a part of what the Grand Forks Senior Center Meals on Wheels program accomplishes. In addition to food, homebound seniors are also hungry for companionship, warmth, smiles, and hugs. Our wonderful Meals on Wheels volunteers feed these seniors daily with their love, their compassion, their caring natures, and their smiles.

Since we started this event in 2014, more than 80 individuals have had the experience of going on a route to deliver meals to homebound seniors.

Staff Senators Patricia Reed and Diane Hillebrand pose with Becky Cournia outside of the Senior Citizens Center.
Thank you to our outgoing senators

UND Staff Senate would like thank all of our senators who completed their term in May 2016.

Pictured (from left to right) are: Front row Bree Melicher, Kaaren Pupino, Cheri Williams, and Kathie Howes. Back Row Moses Serna, Cherie Stoltman, and Trish Hodney. Not pictured are Jana Diemert, Jenny Duffy, Susie Kroetsch, Vicki Thompson and Alyssa Walker.