Staff Newsletter

First launch of the monthly newsletter, Brought to you by UND Staff Senate.

July 2018

What is Staff Senate??

Mission:

To advocate for staff by supporting engagement, development, and recognition through shared governance and collaboration.

Vision:

To be the roots for all UND staff.

This year is Staff Senate's 20th Anniversary!!

The Staff Senate was established with the encouragement and approval of the President of the University of North Dakota on March 13, 1998.
Staff Senator of the Year

Pam Shea was selected by her peers as 2017-2018 Senator of the Year.

"Pam has done a great job providing leadership to Staff Senate during this tough transition period. She is a great resource to Staff Senate and has shown to be an essential key part to helping Staff Senate run smoother. Pam is knowledgeable of the ins and outs of how Staff Senate operates. She has constant devotion to help all Staff Senate committees when needed, and has seemingly never ending commitment to getting answers to all of the pertinent questions in a timely manner so that the rest of us are adequately informed. With all the things she has going on throughout her day, she never fails to take time to stop and say hello. Pam is one of the most down to earth people I know, and I feel she is very deserving of this award. Thank you Pam!"

STAFF SENATE COMMITTEES

Constitution, Bylaws and Elections

Join Staff Senate!

Staff Senate elections for the 2018-2019 Senate year were finalized in April. We would like to welcome returning and new senators, who have been elected to serve a three-year term (2018 to 2021):

Jessica Cadreau, Trio Programs; Melissa Casanova, Registrar's Office; Emily Dougherty, International Center; Samantha Eastman, Arts & Sciences; Kristin Ellwanger, Arts & Science; Garrett Grasser, Housing; Brenda Haugen, School of Medicine & Health Sciences; Angela Holkesvig, Housing; Kari Holter, Student Involvement & Leadership; Devona Janousek, Business Service Center; Brian Larson, Facilities; Jennifer Lunde, Engineering; Jennifer Lynch Hurst, Facilities; Jeremy Malheim, Engineering; Jayson Sharp, Facilities; Conrad Smith, Aerospace; Andria Spaeth, Work Well; and Kim Werner, International Center.

We still have two open seats for anyone interested in joining Staff Senate. These would be for one-year appointments (thru April 2019), so it's a great way to get involved and see if you would want to serve a three-year term. Interested Staff members should contact Pam Shea at pam.shea@UND.edu.

Community Relations
Your Dollar Can Make a Difference!!

2018 will continue to have Special Denim Spirit days every Friday, which encourages our campus to wear denim and/or your UND colors of pink and green or UND clothing and donate a dollar for charities in our community. Dollar donations can go to your Denim Day area coordinators or you can sign up for payroll deduction. Payroll Deduction continues to be popular and we encourage everyone to sign up for it. You can fill out the form on our page. All of the Denim Day Dollars that were collected in 2017 came to an impressive amount of $14,534, which included a Special Denim Spirit Day for Hurricane Harvey and Irma Relief.

Our regular Denim Day recipients for 2017 were: Circle of Friends Humane Society, Community Violence Intervention Center Light of Hope Program, Grand Forks Senior Center/Meals on Wheels Program, Lutheran Social Services Healthy Families program, North Dakota Association for the Disabled, Prairie Harvest, YMCA, Valley Health, Third Street Clinic, Habitat for Humanity, St Joseph’s Food Bank and Northlands Rescue Mission.

Our charities for 2018 are:

(1) Circle of Friends Humane Society
(2) Community Violence Intervention Center Light of Hope Program
(3) Grand Forks Senior Center/Meals on Wheels Program
(4) Lutheran Social Services Healthy Families program
(5) North Dakota Association for the Disabled
(6) Prairie Harvest
(7) Valley Memorial Homes
(8) YMCA
(9) ARC Upper Valley
(10) Global Friends Coalition

The first Friday of every month continues to be our Special Denim Spirit Day. These are to benefit nationally known organizations that submit applications and hold special events for donations.

The 2017 Special Denim Days were for the Sunshine Memorial Foundation, American Diabetes Assn. (Step Out Walk), Feed My Starving Children, V Foundation for Cancer (Hoops for Hope), Salvation Army (National Disaster Relief), Red Cross (International Disaster Relief), American Heart Assn (Heart Walk), UND Mortar Board Turkey Drive, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, Special Olympics, Altru Safe Kids program, Multiple Sclerosis (MS Walk).
Thank you to everyone who supports Denim Days!!!

Pictured above: Staff Senators Patricia Reed and Megan Wasylow as Community Champions for the Meals on Wheels program by the GF Senior Center.

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**Fundraising/Scholarship**

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**Positive Relationships Campus Wide**

The Fundraising/Engagement Committee’s primary goal is to raise money for Seeds for Staff Success. However, our purpose is not simply to raise money. We also plan events focused on staff/faculty interaction, hoping to create positive relationships campus wide.

Top Picture: UND Takeover Event 2017

Bottom Picture left to right: (Top Row) Carrie Jackson, Tina Monette, Laura Vatnsdal, Diane Fugleberg, Melissa Casanova. (Bottom Row) Andrew Wynne and Chris Choate.

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**Legislative**

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**Governance Structure**

The Staff Senate Legislative committee discusses the North Dakota governance structure and how it relates to UND Staff.

Meetings will resume in September 2018.

If you are interested in attending the Staff Senate Legislative meetings
Public Relations

Candy! Candy! Candy!

We are only 2 months away from the Homecoming/Potato Bowl Parade and we need your help getting candy donations for the Staff Senate parade float! If you are interested in donating, please contact Megan Wasylow at megan.wasylow@und.edu.

Staff & Professional Development

Seeds for Staff Success

The next Seeds for Staff Success award deadline is August 15. Seeds for Staff Success is a grant that is awarded to UND staff to be used for professional development.

You must meet the eligibility requirements:

• UND benefited staff member;
• You may apply for a maximum grant of up to $500 in one calendar year;
• Funds must be used for workshops, training and/or classes that enhance one’s education or career at the University of North Dakota; and
• If you receive a grant, funds must be spent during the application period for which you apply. The application periods are listed below.

Application Deadlines:

• December 15 - to receive a grant for this deadline, your allocation must be used between January 1 and May 12 (spring semester)
• May 15 - to receive a grant for this deadline, your allocation must be spent between May 13 and August 18 (summer semester)
• August 15 - to receive a grant for this deadline, your allocation must be spent between August 19 and December 31 (fall semester)

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**Staff Recognition**

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**May 2018 U-Shine Award Winner**

UND Staff Senate is pleased to announce that the May 2018 U-Shine Award recipient is Jennifer Proulx, Coordinator of Orientation and Outreach and Assistant Director, Student Success Center & Career Services. She was nominated by Lindsay Kuntz. The nomination stated:

"Jen is an integral part of the Student Success Center and Career Services. Her position reports to both areas in the Student Academic Services unit. She is diligent in her work and no matter how busy she is with her own responsibilities, she is ready to offer help to her colleagues. Most recently our office hosted an event geared toward student retention for first-year students to celebrate their successes and mark the transition to their sophomore year. Without Jen’s take-charge attitude, we would have been lost without her. She assisted with mentoring the new staff member responsible for the event coordination, she kindly offered her expertise and experience leading up to the event, and most giving of her, she took time from her very busy schedule to be present at the event to assist in any way she could. When I thanked her for assisting, her response was, "I just wish I could do more." That is truly representative of her personality. Her kind smile, her ability to listen and help troubleshoot, and her willingness to go above and beyond (even if it often means staying late at work) are just some of the qualities that make Jen a colleague that I am so very thankful for."

The U-Shine Award is presented monthly to a UND staff member who goes out of his or her way to make UND a better place. All U-Shine Award winners receive a certificate and a $50 bonus, which is added to their next paycheck. DO YOU KNOW A DESERVING STAFF MEMBER?? Nominate them HERE!

Pictured left to right: Tyler Clausen (Staff Senate President), Jennifer Proulx (May 2018 U-Shine recipient), Lindsay Kuntz (nominator), Angie Carpenter (Director of the Student Success Center), and Angela Holkesvig (Staff Senate Staff Recognition committee chair)

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**DEVELOPMENT**

Getting involved in both of these organizations provides a great opportunity for
networking and growth!

The Chamber

All UND employees are Chamber Members! This means we have access to discounted rates (such as the monthly Brown Bag Seminar luncheons) and free events (such as the monthly Business After Hours event). The Grand Forks Chamber website is found here.

Greater Grand Forks Young Professionals

UND covers the membership to be in Greater Grand Forks Young Professionals. Anyone is invited to their monthly Lunch & Learns; members get in free and non-members pay a small fee. The GGFYP's website is found here.

ENGAGEMENT

UND Staff Senate Facebook Page

Each Wednesday, we “catch” a UND staff member. Our goal is to help staff get a face with the name and to highlight staff, so we can all get to know each other a little better.

In the past month, we "caught" Ed Martin, Kendall Klemmer, Misty Brustad, Jen Proulx, Lindsay Kuntz, Angie Carpenter, Ben Heller, and Keeley Useldinger. We appreciate all of you!! Go check out their posts in the photos section and learn more about them!

Each Monday, we provide the week of events that all UND employees are invited to. These events range from Staff Senate events, UND events, lunch ideas, Grand Forks community events, as well as development and networking opportunities with UND, TTaDA, The Chamber, and Greater Grand Forks Young Professionals. The current week of events will always be pinned to the top of our Facebook page.

We welcome you to “like,” and follow the UND Staff Senate Facebook page for daily posts involving UND and community events/information highlighting engagement, development, and recognition for all UND staff. The goal for our Facebook page is to be a useful tool and provide a fun environment for all UND employees.
We also want your feedback for the name of this Newsletter!! We started a communication thread on Facebook, so check it out and be a voice!

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**Suggestion Box**

Staff Senate welcomes questions and ideas. Please click on the Suggestion Box to submit a suggestion.

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[UND.edu/staff-senate](http://UND.edu/staff-senate)