

# Staff Senate Meeting

November 15, 2023

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

[Join us via Zoom](#)

## 1. Standing Items

- a. Call to order
- b. October minutes approved
- c. Approval of Agenda
- d. Chancellor Team Update - Chancellor Grasso
  - i. Veteran's Day [Op-ed in Detroit News](#): Colleges have a duty to support student veterans
    1. [15 Things Veterans Want You to Know](#) shared by Tom Pitock
  - ii. 1st President's council meeting last week - Chancellor, Michelle Fallscheer, Darena Matti, Bruce Maxim represent Dearborn campus
  - iii. Conversation with Chancellor, [watch replay here](#).
  - iv. Visit from [Geoff Chatas](#), discussed university budget challenges. The Chancellor spoke with the financial framework review committee and is waiting for a report for consideration.
  - v. [MASU](#) board meeting focused on freedom of speech on campus
  - vi. Visit by Senator Albert Thomas, we feel he left with a renewed appreciation for the role of higher education.
  - vii. Community forum on the Middle East organized by Provost's Office. Maureen was MC and helped to lead a civilized exchange of ideas.
  - viii. Peaceful march on campus last week.
  - ix. Santa Ono State of University address will be 11/27, we have 5 representatives attending from UM Dearborn. It's an Ann Arbor event, K. Kettenbiel will attend and there s/b a write up in Reporter.
  - x. Chancellor traveling to CA for the Coalition of transformative education to present [work that Maureen's team is doing](#).
  - xi. After Thanksgiving, return to CA to meet with a donor and hope to close a sizable gift.
- e. Provost Team Update - Gabriella Scarlatta
  - i. Congratulations to staff milestones and Chancellor's Staff Committee for the Recognition event.
  - ii. HLC was a success, the opening meeting with Chancellor, Provost and Mitch Monday, closing meeting was yesterday. Hoping for a successful review.
  - iii. Working on white paper for more majors/programs to be offered online. We should have a clear plan in January to present to the Chancellor.
    1. Will advising staff be provided information prior to the presentation for the Chancellor? Paper will include the

constructs of providing online programming/best practices. Engagement with staff and faculty will happen prior to launch, it's still early in the process.

2. Concern over third party involvement with digital education and privatization. Math and Sciences create barriers with online structure. We have to determine which degrees we want to switch and if help is needed from outside of our organization. We're in the early stages, but we prefer a home grown, strategic process if we have the capacity.
- iv. Thanks to Tracy Vogt on the AACP committee with advisors, IT and HR to harmonize the academic units on campus. They've created a mission statement and are working on a newsletter. [Website](#)
- v. We continue to monitor student well-being with updates from DAS.
- vi. LEO negotiations are underway. The current contract ends April 2024, the new contract will be for 3yrs starting F24.
- f. HR Update - Rima Berry-Hung
  - i. Complete timesheet this week to make sure information is correct.
    1. Earn code for M-W is 'TOA', R-F is 'HOL'
  - ii. Staff climate & satisfaction survey results are in the works. Senior leadership has seen it and shared unit specific results and each unit will determine how they share it and when (soon).
  - iii. \$1500 merit coming in January
    1. All non-bargained for staff, hired as of 9/1 will see \$1500 added to base salary effective January.
    2. Temporary employees will not see the merit increase
    3. Part-time employees will receive prorated amount
- g. ITS Update - Joe Lubomirski
  - i. No update on Zoom phones. Waiting on Ann Arbor campus. Flint is the priority right now before returning to Dearborn.
  - ii. October is cybersecurity awareness month. It's a shared responsibility.
    1. Supervisors must remove access when people leave.
    2. Retrieve Google Drive docs from employees that leave.
    3. [Phishing](#) continues to be a problem.
    4. [How to report Phishing](#)
    5. [Safe computing information](#) - folder 'personal and private' will prevent IT from looking at it after you leave.
    6. [Group Shares](#) & [Printing Access](#)
- h. Student Government Update - Jana Rida, VP
  - i. Updates on our academic success initiative
    1. Mock MCAT exam had 20 students
  - ii. Internal Student Government updates
    1. 10 students attended HLC session
    2. Friendsgiving event allowed students to engage with each other
    3. Engagement is at an all-time high
      - a. 43 people with 20 active fellows

- i. Budget Update - \$22,591, including deduction of John U Bacon event, expected balance at the end of the year is \$19,158

## **2. Guest Speaker**

- a. Rick Michalski, Director of IRE
  - i. Update on reports available in [Tableau Internal Dashboards](#)
    - 1. Added training and access request
    - 2. Enrollment Data, by year & by term
    - 3. Added Course Fill Rates w/ Dashboard
      - a. Examine fill rates overall, by modality, college & details about courses
    - 4. Incorporated academic progress data for faculty
    - 5. Retention and graduation dashboard expanded to add better filtering capabilities and automate the process.

## **3. MHealthy Update - Bryan Earl**

- a. We have 16 Champions on campus
  - i. Next year, we're charged with providing monthly activities
- b. MHealthy annual retreat was in-person (4 attended) and virtual (1)
  - i. Scavenger Hunt recognized, were finalists for an award.
- c. Wellness Center survey results & fitness classes, hoping to bring instructors in and begin next semester. Coordinating with Craig Kotajarvi, our MHealthy representative in Ann Arbor.
- d. FREE home fitness classes available in [MHealthy site, exercise library](#)

## **4. Staff Senate Committee Updates**

- a. Staff Development - Courtney Duffy
  - i. Career Development Fund for staff in Ann Arbor are [accepting applications for financial support for developmental training](#).
- b. Parliamentary - no updates
- c. Communication - Nikki Wasilius, no updates
- d. Hospitality/Staff Engagement
  - i. Social at Ford's Garage December 12 at 4p, more to come
- e. Staff Recognition - Bryan Earl
  - i. Thanks to U nominations are flooding in so please be patient while we work through it.
  - ii. Website is updated to recognize previous "recognizees".

## **5. Announcements and Dates**

- Share your ideas for future meetings [here](#), including ways to bring people together and improve staff morale.
  - Please include your contact information or more detail as to what you'd specifically like. Recent submission "One Stop", what specifically would be beneficial for the group at large?

- Request to bring back vendor supply show. Years ago it was part of the Chancellor's picnic and it is no longer done.
  - If it helps, here is a list of [products & services](#).
  - Possibly bring an artisan showcase
- Comment to have our meetings in person with lunch at noon
  - Staff Senate meeting attendance has increased as a result of the virtual option, so we are reluctant to switch back to having in person.
- Presentation by Psychology professor on what creates optimal happiness
  - No comments by participants
  - BTW, about happiness: The Atlantic magazine has a long-running series on happiness & achieving happiness.
  - The Atlantic series called How to BUild a Life
- Sign up [here](#) to receive emails from external relations (Reporter, Chancellor).
- Subscribe [here](#) to receive emails from the Provost.