

Staff Senate Meeting

December 17, 2025
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
[Join us via Zoom](#)

Standing Items

- a. Call to order
- b. November minutes posted
- c. Approval of Agenda
- d. Chancellor Team Update - Chancellor Scarlatta
 - i. Thank you for participating in trivia night with Athletics. There will be another one in March, hope to see you there!
 - ii. IA fundraising event at Ford's Garage went well. Thank you for your generosity.
 - iii. Senior leaders met with student organizations last Monday and discussed items that are important, including food on campus. The contract is up for renewal.
 - iv. Chancellor's and Dean's medallion celebration is tonight and military graduation will be tomorrow.
 - v. Additional layers of security will be added for commencement tomorrow.
 - vi. Have a nice, relaxing break. Enjoy the holidays!
- e. HR Update - Rima Berry-Hung
 - i. Executive Director for Facilities Operations, Ben Bushkull from Michigan Medicine has accepted the offer and will be starting on January 19, 2026
 - ii. USU Bargaining for student services began earlier this year. November began bargaining twice a week but has halted until the new year. Reach out to representatives with questions or concerns.
 1. USU Dearborn Bargaining Reps:
Dominique Bouavichith dombouav@umich.edu
Jessica Riviere riviorej@umich.edu
 2. FYI: <https://actionnetwork.org/letters/um-regents-hear-us-usu-needs-a-deal-by-friday?source=direct> [link&](#)
 - iii. Mary Jones shared that there have been grumblings about scheduling campus events on things on Yom Kippur and other types of Jewish holidays and such, Rima will take note.
 - iv. Floating holiday (HFT code) must be used by the end of the year and will not carry over.
- f. ITS Update - Joseph Lubomirski
 - i. Moving to a new identity system, including two factor authentication. In February, you will shift from Duo to Okta. Communication with instructions will begin on January 14th with a deadline of February 25 to switch.
 1. Signing in with Okta, [visit this link for more info.](#)
- g. Student Government Update - Imaan Rao, Vice President (did not attend)
- h. Dept of Public Safety - Chief Paul Tennes
 - i. Brown University terrorist attack perspective; School safety planning for 15 years, wife is a teacher and they've had discussions. Data includes 75 mass

casualty incidents this year which is way too many however we do have 135k educational institutions in the country.

- ii. The primary focus of DPSS is life safety. They continue to work on measures to protect our community. Increased presence during finals and commencement to improve ability to respond. These measures are non-intrusive and brought in to support safety.
 - iii. 24/7 presence, 365. No difference with little to no operations.
 - iv. Public institution that includes people with differing views. Recent incident with people filming, interviewing. We see independent journalists in Dearborn and some coming to campus. DPS continues to review policies and recognize first amendment protected activities.
 - v. Donation Drive: Thank you for your gifts, donations. We appreciate the Student Government and Staff Senate for partnering with us.
- i. Budget Update - Rich Durant
\$18,307 projected end of December, \$8,807 end of Fiscal Year

Guest Speaker: Provost Kridli Update and Block Tuition Analysis

- j. Chancellor search process is ongoing, send nominations to UMDearborn.Chancellor@russellreynolds.com
- k. Shout outs for service excellence.
 - i. Ajilon McLittle in START met with students during the break and after hours to facilitate student registration and support enrollment.
 - ii. Jonathan Larson traveled with another institution during the Thanksgiving break to work on an agreement with another college in Michigan that heard about the work he did here.
- l. Academic Integrity is being reviewed by the leadership team, led by Stein Brunvand. One initiative was to support a requirement for putting cameras on during exams on the syllabus beginning next semester.
- m. Block tuition began in 2021. After 4 years, we wanted to review how this impacted our students and provided a presentation to senior officers. Link provided above.
 - i. Students that are more confident are taking more credits.
 - ii. There was a suggestion to look at these numbers in comparison to the numbers prior to the block tuition.
 - 1. Concern that prompted this work was about students overloading and setting themselves up for failure. This report supported the fact that advisors are doing a great job of steering students in the right direction.

Staff Senate Committee Updates

- n. Staff Development - Jennifer Macleod
 - i. [PD Grant](#), please submit your applications!
- o. Parliamentary - Sheryl Kubiak (no updates)

- i. Think about who can be your next senator!
- p. Communication - Justin Recio (no updates)
- q. Hospitality/Staff Engagement - Nick Capul
 - i. Wellness Day turnout was great
 - ii. Partnership Donation Drive - Hope for the Holidays
 - iii. Watch party had 20 people, thanks for joining!
 - iv. Winter semester: Possible self defense class
- r. Staff Recognition - Donna Kerry
 - i. How to submit nominations for Thanks to U. Please send separate requests and not for a group, because they're difficult to manage.

Announcements and Dates

- New employee introductions during the meeting:
 - Steve Spinosa, Dept Mgr in Natural Sciences
 - Alyssa Ayyash, Career Services
- We want to hear from you! Do you have anything you'd like to share today?
 - [Share your ideas](#) for future meeting topics, bringing people together and improving staff morale.
- [Sign up](#) to receive emails from external relations (Reporter, Chancellor).
- [Subscribe](#) to receive emails from the Provost.