

Staff Senate Meeting

February 25, 2026

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

[Join us via Zoom](#)

1. Standing Items

- a. Call to order
- b. January minutes posted
- c. Approval of Agenda
- d. Provost Team Update - Provost Kridli
 - i. Deadline is 2/28 for the Staff [Career Development Fund](#)
 - ii. Call for faculty and staff book showcase, please reach out to us.
 - iii. Campus operations during spring break are open 8a-5p, please work with your supervisor on the schedule.
 - iv. [Graduation and Retention Summit](#) is coming up on March 13th, please attend.
 - v. Provost Office hours allow 15 minute meetings with the Provost.
- e. Chancellor Team Update - Rima Berry-Hung
 - i. Chancellor Scarlatta is traveling on donor visits.
 - ii. Thank you to everyone for your participation in campus events:
 1. 2/11 Inclusive History Project hosted the film premier for Blenda Wilson, thank you for coming.
 2. Thank you for coming to the State of the University and Winter Carnival.
 3. AI Panel event on 2/13.
- f. HR Update - Rima Berry-Hung
 - i. Just like spring break hours, summer hours standard expectation is to maintain operations M-F 8a-5p.
 - ii. Performance review messaging will begin after spring break, around the second week of March. The form will remain largely unchanged. Deadline around late June.
 - iii. [OHE](#) update: Continuing to engage with unit leaders on results and themes. Follow up meetings are being held to engage leaders, supervisors and managers to discuss if the issues and opportunities are the same as what was learned.
- g. ITS Update - Joseph Lubomirski
 - i. Okta day! Today is the day we switched from Duo to Okta, but we will continue using Duo for a while.
 - ii. You are encouraged to use the [Okta Fastpass](#).
 - iii. Window users - you can refer to the [knowledge base article on how to set up Windows Hello](#).
 - iv. Spring cleaning: Open a ticket for ITS to collect old hardware, computers and phones.
 - v. The required security training deadline has passed. Please get it done if you haven't yet completed it. Supervisors can see who hasn't taken it in MyLinc.
 - vi. Monday we hosted 'Make a Maizey workshop', about 60 attendees at the 2 hour workshop. Look out for more information on additional sessions.
- h. Student Government Update - Imaan Rao, Vice President
 - i. Making Ramadan goodie bags for students

- ii. Conference on March 21 where we'll host 12 schools, around 10 students from each school. More updates to come.
- i. Dept of Public Safety - Celia Robinson let us know that Chief Tennes is unable to attend. No updates but please reach out if you have any questions.
 - i. Can we report speeders on campus? Celia will get back to us, but Officer Kaitlin said they are happy to patrol specific areas.
- j. Budget Update - Thomas Wesley / no changes. Expected \$8,774.22

2. Guest Speaker: Benjamin Bushkuhl, Executive Director for Facilities Operations

- a. Bachelors & Masters in Construction Management, has worked for 20 years in different areas of facilities, maintenance and construction - most of which was in Ann Arbor and at the hospital.
- b. Shared an initial observation that he has enjoyed seeing how engaged people are and how mission-aligned people are to what we do.
- c. Will be joining meetings to keep campus informed, engaged and excited about the future of facilities.
- d. When something is wrong, broken and/or needs repaired, please tell us!
 - i. umd-facilities-req@umich.edu
 - ii. 313-593-5270
- e. 3 areas: access to make sure spaces are usable and accessible to everyone, reliability is key, and that everyone cares for campus as a duty and goal.
- f. A question about the timeline of the AB project and reopening was asked.
 - i. Emily Hamilton shared that furniture installation begins next week. Then there will be walk-throughs, signage and keying. The timeline is April-May, more to come in the next few weeks.
- g. A question about costs for moving a desk and large monitor was asked. They were advised to put in a work order and they could look into it.

3. Guest Speaker: Dy Jenkins-Ali, Chief of Staff to Dr. Robert Ernst, Chief Health Officer, Office of the President and the Associate Director of Voices of the Staff

- a. [Voices of the Staff Website](#) & [Meeting Presentation](#)
- b. Established 21 years ago as a "staff ombudsman" that has been championed by every president since.
- c. 5 elements of engagement: having meaningful work, making a difference, being seen, heard and valued.
- d. The next town hall is January 2027. There will be a survey to find out what's important for staff over the next 3 years or so.
- e. Current Voices Network Teams: Advance community and connection, alumni engagement, embrace change, enhance employee experience, facilitate flexible work, promote career growth, strive for well-being.
 - i. [Contact for Embrace Change](#)
- f. Dearborn can engage by continuing our great work and sharing input with Rima Berry-Hung in HR.

4. Staff Senate Committee Updates

- a. Staff Development - Jennifer Macleod
 - i. [PD Grant](#) is live, there are 3 staff that have been awarded and 1 pending approval. Please submit your requests!

- ii. Motion by Tom Wesley, Second by Rich Durant to establish a PD donation fund.
Discussion: None.
 - 1. All in favor. Opposed, none. Abstain, none. Motion carries!
- b. Parliamentary - Sheryl Kubiak
 - i. 2026 Elections - consider running or nudging colleagues to consider. Direct questions to Sheryl Kubiak.
- c. Communication - Michelle Fallscheer
 - i. The next newsletter will be in May and will include a thank you to President Grasso for his tenure as chancellor on campus. Reach out if you have anything you'd like to have included at mfallsch@umich.edu.
- d. Hospitality/Staff Engagement - Nick Capul
 - i. [Survey regarding self-defense course](#) that closes today, submit your preferences and stay tuned.
 - ii. Contact ashannon@lahc.org for information on the four-week self defense class.
 - iii. Working on a speaker for summer or fall, possibly Zingermans.
 - iv. Non-profit drive for Eid, primarily a toy drive for kids.
 - v. Working on an end-of-semester celebration for staff. More details to come.
- e. Staff Recognition - Donna Kerry

5. Announcements and Dates

- 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.