



Campus Updates – July 2019



Update Provided By: Jessie Meckle

- Bismarck will be hosting 2020 State Staff Senate Retreat- Planning is underway.
- BSC's Health Sciences building is almost complete- will house all of the Health Science programs
- Employee Outreach committee is working on proposing ideas to H.R for a better way to welcome new employees to BSC "Buddy Program"
- Employee Retention is planning a coffee and donut event for Staff in the Spring
- Staff Senate as a whole is planning a Back to School picnic in September
- Teaming with Student Government and a local Girl Scouts troop to purchase and install a Food Pantry Box on campus
- Teaming with "The Mystician", BSC's student run newspaper, to feature Employee Bios each month in hopes to learn about staff we may not see every day



Update Provided By: Crystal Tangsrud

- No updates.



Update Provided By:

- No updates provided.



Update Provided By: Josh Nichols

- The new senators have held their first meeting.
- Congratulations and thank you to our newly elected executive officers Keith James, Vice President and Jen Zier, Secretary/Treasurer.



Update Provided By: Carla Freschette

- Held annual retreat sponsored by Staff Senate on July 18, 2019 at the Odessa Event Center at Eastbay Campground.
 - Brainstorm session for LRSC Vision Statement
 - Focus Areas for Discussion –
 - Student Centered
 - Funding/Facilities & Staff/Faculty Centered



Update Provided By: Susan Cordahl

- In May, Staff Senate went over our final update regarding emergency kits in State Fleet vehicles. Jami Hovet, our VP for Business Affairs, attended the meeting and indicated that we are meeting the minimum requirements per regulations: a scraper, a shovel, and an extension cord if applicable. She requested a final list to be gathered by Staff Senate as the University is willing to include a few other items, such as a small first aid kit, sterno candle, and a blanket. These kits will be kept in backpacks and checked out along with State Fleet keys. Upon returning, employees will also return the backpack.
- Staff Senate's "Welcome Letter" to new Staff members was updated and new copies were made and given to the Human Resources Office in June. These letters, along with a coupon for a free soda or candy bar from the MSU Bookstore, will be included in the packet of information given to new employees by HR. The purpose is not only to welcome our new Staff members, but to give them a background of what we as a Staff Senate do (and hopefully pique interest in being a part of our Senate).
- We have made an update to our Bylaws. In May, our Bylaws committee motioned we drop our required Staff Senate membership from 10% to 5% of our total staff-count. This was approved by Staff Senate and went to Staff Association to vote. It was passed and then forwarded on to Cabinet for final approval, which was granted July 2, 2019.
- Our Staff Senate President, Vice-President, and Past-President were all able to attend the State Staff Senate meeting at CTS in Grand Forks, ND June 19-20. We especially enjoyed the training regarding Cyber Security presented by Brad Mills, Director of Information Security at NDUS, along with the tour of the facilities.
- Our new "Staff Strategies" campaign is still going strong. We had sent out a survey requesting types of trainings that employees would like to see offered. Monthly trainings have been offered by staff members such as Office 365 and health & wellness. Our June session was AED training and it was very well-received. July's session will be information on the MaSU Wellness Center. Staff can come hear about the classes offered, costs, and will be able to ask any questions. We will be taking August off and starting up again in September. Each monthly session is approximately 1-hour long.

- Other items that are in the works include:
 - Ordering our annual “Comet Pride” buttons; faculty and staff can purchase the button for \$40 to wear every Friday along with jeans throughout the academic year. The money collected goes toward scholarships for students that are dependents or spouses of MaSU employees. “Perks” are included with the button and Staff Senate works diligently on them each year. Some of them for 19-20 will include 10% off at the Bookstore on Fridays (if you’re wearing your button), coupon for a free pop & popcorn at any home athletic event, coupon for free admittance to an MaSU theater production, one free month at the MaSU Wellness Center, and name entered in a drawing for a ticket to our annual Sportsman’s Raffle.
 - The State Employee Recognition Week planning committee is meeting in July to start planning events for September 9-13.
 - Also in July, we will be formulating a Staff Senate calendar of activities for the 19-20 academic year and forming more committees to keep our planning efficient and organized.
 - Finally, a culture survey is in the works to gather information on overall staff perspectives. Topics to be incorporated at this time include the Friday After Thanksgiving initiative as well as thoughts on a chemical/scent-free environment policy.



Update Provided By: Michael Linnell

- Minot State welcomed a total of 13 new members after spring elections to its membership and formed eight working committees along with one campus-wide taskforce.
- Aaron Hughes, student activities coordinator, was named as the May High Five Award winner.
- The Staff Senate Fall Kick Off picnic has been set for Aug. 21 at 4:30 p.m. at Roosevelt Park. The annual event features grilled hamburgers and hotdogs, chips, salad, cookies and ice cream. Vice President for Administration and Finance Brent Winiger will provide entertainment and Staff Senate will host a free-will offering bake sale/farmer’s market. Multiple area business help provide food, drink, and prizes.
- Staff Senate will host its first-ever Cornhole Tournament open to students, faculty, staff, and the community Sept. 19 at the Minot State Wellness Center. Prizes and cash payouts will go to the top 3 teams.
- The next Staff Senate Meeting is set for Tuesday, Aug. 13, at 8:30 a.m. in the Jones Room.



Update Provided By: Bruce Woytassek

- The NDSCS Staff Senate purchased and donated a trash station to help with the recycling effort on campus.



Update Provided By:

- No updates provided.



Update Provided By: Whitney Maine

- We elected our new Vice President/President-Elect for our Staff Senate, Megan Wasylow. We are excited to have her serve in her new role!
- Public Relations committee decided on a theme for our Potato Bowl and Homecoming parade floats "Staff Senate has CRED: Community, Recognition, Engagement, and Development."
- Engagement committee is hosting a Summer Takeover on the Rhombus Pizza rooftop on August 12.
- For Staff Recognition Week, our Recognition committee is hosting a Sweet Tooth Social on September 11.
- Community Relations committee distributed money for our January-July charities totaling \$3,111.13.
- Legislative committee is working on support materials for requesting the Friday After Thanksgiving as a paid holiday for staff to boost morale and save money, among other reasons.
- Staff and Professional Development committee is finalizing guest speakers for fall semester, including President Wynne for our meeting in October.
- We are still working on electing new senators to fill open seats.
- For other updates, UND has moved forward with our Memorial Union demolition to build a new Union in its place. Our meeting location will be in the College of Nursing until the new Union opens.



Update Provided By: Benjamin Ferguson

- Staff Senate has elected new members.
 - Past President: Kari Bodine
 - President: Erica Buchholz
 - Vice President: Jerilyn Beckman
 - Secretary: Haley Jenrich
- For the upcoming year, staff members signed up for subcommittees, including with a new Subcommittee for welcoming new staff members.
- State Staff representatives will be Lacey Udem and Ben Ferguson.
- We will be combining our next staff open forum with the next CIFF (Campus Inter-functional Forum) Meeting, which will happen near the beginning of the semester.

- Preparation for the Inauguration of Dr. Alan LaFave as President of Valley City State University is underway.
 - Staff Senate is working with the inauguration committee to get T-shirts for all staff & faculty.
- One goal for the year will be focusing on ways for the campus to have a unified level of service, and to improve unity across campus (including from different buildings on different ends of campus)



Update Provided By: Megan Kasner

- TrainND started offering the One Basin-One Way class in July. Five Hundred individuals have taken this class, exceeding our expectations.
- Ken Quamme will be accepting the Director's Award of Excellence on behalf of our Information Technology program.
- We have hired a new Athletic Director, Jason Herbers.
- We have the following positions available, Health & Wellness Administrative Assistant (pt), Head Baseball Coach, Technology Service Associate, and Counselor.
- July 6th, Ribfest was held on campus. Twenty-eight hundred community members attended.
- P-3 Project is underway and currently working on WSC's environmental system upgrade.