



Campus Updates – November 2019



Update Provided By: Jessie Meckle

- Staff Employee Outreach, Professional Development and Employee Retention are working together to plan an event during Finals week for Employees. We're planning a hot chocolate bar and cookies and a ornament decorating station. We are researching charities to partner with so staff can donate to that charity during the event.
- Staff Senate Professional Development holds monthly "Lunch and Learns". November's Lunch and Learn was held by the Automotive Technology program. They shared how to prepare your vehicle for the winter. October's session was a tour of the new Health Sciences building.
- Nominations and applications for the new BSC president should be received by January 10th. The Presidential Search Committee will meet in January to identify top candidates for video interviews.



Update Provided By: Crystal Tangsrud

- Our FUNdraising Committee had several events in the last few months, including hosting a monthly Donut Day. Staff could stop by for a cup of coffee and a donut with a small contribution to our CTSOSS Scholarship Fund. In November, the FUNdraising Committee also put on our annual Soup & Chili Cook Off. We had 9 entries this year and tons of other great food. Crystal Tangsrud took home the traveling trophy with her Loaded Baked Potato Soup.
- We also launched our Operation Red, White, and Blue project which is our annual philanthropy project. This project sends care packages to service members who are away from their families over the holidays. Our packing date is December 5th. In 2018 we were able to send 68 boxes. We are hoping to be able to do something similar this year. Find more information at <https://facebook.com/operationrwb>.



Update Provided By: Laura Halvorson

- We have hired a new Athletic Director. He will start his new position January 1.
- The campus has decided to terminate our Football program after an 11 year run. Due to low retention and graduation rates, DCB has decided to open a new chapter for athletics and student recruitment.
- Halloween festivities were a success. And Holiday activity planning is underway!



Update Provided By:

- No updates provided.



Update Provided By: Cathleen Ruch

- Mini Professional Development Sessions –
 - FERPA
 - EAP
- Door Decorating – Doors can be decorated by December 6th and students will vote the week of December 9-13.



Update Provided By: Susan Cordahl

- The Mayville State University Staff Senate met November 19, 2019.
- Our staff senate went over the HR 22 FMLA Policy update and submitted our position to Carla Freschette. For the purposes of HR22, Mayville State University does not support the changes that would allow for 40/80 hours of leave to be retained. Rather we would recommend and support a motion to make changes to NDUS HR Manual Policy 7 to allow for 1) an appeals process for employees under 7.7 for employees who disagree with their department head's decision and 2) To add an example list of events in which a person would automatically qualify to go negative in leave balance.
- We had a walkabout activity at our Staff Association Meeting in October. Results from that are being organized and discussed so that we as a Staff Senate can determine what ideas and activities we want to focus on. The goal is to work on things we can possibly make a difference with.

- Our newly formed committees are doing great work:
- Our Staff Recognition committee has developed a monthly Comet Kudos award to recognize staff members with outstanding contributions to the university. Each month, staff can nominate whoever they choose; there is a committee made up of staff, faculty, division chairs, and Cabinet members that make the final selection.
- Our Staff Professional Development Committee continues to hold monthly training sessions called “Staff Strategies.” November’s topic was “Travel and Expense.” Staff had the opportunity to go over how to report per diem, mileage, airfare, taxi fares, and reimbursements.
- The Public Relations Committee has been putting out a monthly newsletter announcing current campus news, events, new hires, people leaving us, bdays, Comet Kudos winners, staff spotlights, etc. It has been very well-received by campus. They will be starting to focus on a Staff Senate presence on our Mayville State University website.
- Event Planning/Fundraising Committee has organized an office holiday decorating contest complete with a new “traveling trophy” that they hope to use for years to come. They are also currently organizing a Staff Holiday Potluck, where staff will bring a dish to share over lunch and are encouraged to wear their fun and festive holiday attire.
- In other news, our Staff Senate has adopted a 3-mile section of highway near our campus through the Adopt-A-Highway program. We are excited to start this project in the spring, and will be doing the cleanup about twice a year.
- Our next Staff Senate Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 10th.



Update Provided By: Michael Linnell

- Lisa Dooley, Title IX coordinator, was named Minot State University Staff Senate's October High Five Award winner.
- Minot State presented a panel discussion on how to be an “antiracist” on Nov. 13. Minot State students, faculty, and alumni were featured on the panel with Evan Hunt (MSU alumni, criminal justice) and Lauren Cowden (MED candidate and MSU assistant softball coach) moderating. The audience was also invited to share their thoughts and insights.
- Minot State Staff Senate also hosted an MSU Takeover Night at The Starving Rooster in downtown Minot on Oct. 29. The event functioned as a social event for MSU employees and a fundraiser for Staff Senate as The Starving Rooster donated 25% of the total check between 5-10 p.m.
- December’s professional development events feature Karina Stander, MSU director of residence life, for a session on mindfulness and gratitude at the Northwest Arts Center on Dec. 3 from 3-4 p.m., and a land ski team building exercise on Dec. 10 in the Minot State Wellness Center.
- Staff Senate will hold its annual Holiday Decorating Contest with the theme of Holiday Movies during finals week.
- The Minot State Staff Senate Scholarship is open for applications for the Spring 2020 semester. Applications are due Dec. 13. The scholarship is given out each spring to a Minot State classified employee or their immediate family member who is continuing their education in order to meet future career goals.



Update Provided By: Bruce Woytassek

- The Marketing Committee is working on creating posters to promote the Staff Senate Cookbook for the holidays, at NDSU sporting events and other campus events.
- Student Senate has expressed desire for more recycling bins; Senator Sherven will find out where they would like them to be and request them from Facilities Management.



Update Provided By: April Helgaas

- NDSU's last Staff Senate meeting was held on November 6th.
- The Staff Development Committee hosted a "Dare to Lead" seminar led by Jill Nelson, faculty member from the NDSU School of Education . The session was well attended and feedback was positive.
- The focused charity drive for this month is canned tuna and fruit for the Emergency Food Pantry.
- The Sustainability Committee hosted a recycling seminar entitled "Recyclable or Not?" on November 12th that was also recorded and shared via Facebook Live. Please access the NDSU Staff Senate Facebook page to watch the posted recording.
- Staff Senate awarded 8 Campus Kudos in November.
- NDSU campus will be on holiday hours Wednesday, November 27th and Friday, November 29th. Holiday hours are 7:30am-4:00pm.
- NDSU's Senate Coordinating Council approved a new procedure for making policy changes. Prior to the new procedure, proposed policy changes that had been approved by faculty, staff and student senates could be stalled indefinitely if not signed by legal counsel, the provost, or the president. This prevented further action on the policy. Now unsigned policies will be returned to the responsible office after a designated period of time. The responsible office then can choose to modify or withdraw their proposed changes.



Update Provided By: Megan Wasylow

- We sold all 600 tickets for our 31 Days of Glory raffle. We sell 600 tickets for \$20 each and there is a winner every day in December (Mon-Fri \$100, Sat. \$250, and Sun. \$500). This is a fundraiser for Seeds for Staff Success, which allows UND staff to apply for a grant up to \$500 each calendar year toward professional development.
- We had a UND Staff Takeover on November 19, which was an event after work in a local restaurant. We provided some food, door prizes, BINGO, and BINGO prizes. Around 50 staff showed up for this event.
- Our Community Relations Committee will be starting Tubs of Love soon; taking collections throughout December and distributing donations to a specific non-profit in January.
- We are short around 10 senators, so we have worked with Administrators to support Staff Senate and speak with staff in their divisions. We also provided them with a list of senators that are missing in each division.

- We will be hosting our annual December potluck on December 11. The President, Vice Presidents, Deans, AVPs, University Senate Presidential leaders, and Student Government Presidential Leaders are invited to this event.
- We are continuing to present a UShine Award Winner of the month.
- We are continuing to send a monthly Staff Senate newsletter.



Update Provided By: Benjamin Ferguson

- There will be two Campus Community events in the next month. The Secret Viking gift exchange will take place during the week of 1/16/19 - 11/20/19. Also, we will have a holiday treat exchange.
- We are planning for future Staff Appreciation events alongside Viking Basketball games.
- Broadband meetings will be held in December. The senators from each broadband group are in the process of scheduling each meeting.



Update Provided By:

- No update provided.