



Campus Updates – April 2019



Update Provided By: Mindy Sturn

- Staff Senate held a Staff appreciation event during Spring Break week. It was a great success with over 90 staff participating in the games and contests. A video was also created to highlight the people that Staff Senate represent. The video captured the many different departments on BSC campus and the great people that represent those areas.
- Staff Senate is looking at holding another staff event in May before finals week.



Update Provided By: Crystal Tangsrud

- We successfully completed our first ever Professional Development Week, with a great turnout at our various events throughout the week! Our CTSO Staff Senate cosponsored the event in collaboration with Senior Staff at both the System Office and CTS and our Wellness Committees in Grand Forks and Fargo. Some highlights included a session on Communication Styles by VBI and book discussions around the state on the book: *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success* by Dr. Carol S. Dweck. It was a fantastic week! We hope to have a similar event again next year!
- Our CTSO Staff Senate Scholarship application deadline came and went with a new record high of applicants. Our Scholarship Sub-Committee is working to review and select our recipient for the 2019-2020 year now.
- We completed our bi-annual staff survey, with an overall positive improvement in many areas since the last survey. The results are currently being reviewed by our Senior Staff and then will be shared with our staff here.



Update Provided By: Hattie Albertson

- At DCB, Staff Senate has been busy updating the Staff Senate By-Laws and the Functioning Areas chart.
- We are looking forward to our next big event which is a Spring Vendor Show. DCB will host more than 30 vendors selling a wide variety of goods.
- We are also working on establishing a Staff Senate sponsored scholarships for students and preparing for the election of Staff Senate officers in May.



Update Provided By: Laura Fetting

- The Staff Development Committee is bringing a training to campus for staff and faculty that is offered by ND's OMB. This session will be held on May 14th. The topic of the training would be Dealing with Difficult People.
- We will be selecting our Staff Senate Scholarship recipient(s) at the end of April. This scholarship is awarded to students who are dependents/spouses of staff employees. The scholarship dollars are raised through fundraising efforts of Staff Senate.
- Pending the approval of the Staff Emeritus Policy, we are working on creating the procedures for nominating and awarding this distinction.
- In conjunction with the office of University Relations, we were able to create an employee lounge area. This space was furnished with booths and tables that were no in the University's storage. Staff and faculty will be able to utilize this space and it will create a nice space to gather.
- After a suggestion was brought forth to Staff Senate to initiate a recycling program on the DSU Campus, it was determined that a work group will be formed to provide recommendations to the President. Forming a work group should ensure that the appropriate groups, offices, and departments on campus are represented and have an opportunity to collaborate.
- Elections will be held in May for the 2019-20 term.



Update Provided By: Brittany Hanson

- Mini professional development sessions –
 - April/May – Campus Clean-up Days (two Friday afternoons) – with potluck one afternoon – April 26 & May 3 – Carla will add to employee calendars this week.
 - July – Staff Retreat – scheduled for July 18 – Possible social gathering with employee families that day as well. Part of the retreat will include some discussion on a vision statement for LRSC.
- Heartsaver CPR, First Aid & AED Training April 9 & 16
- Staff Senate Constitution – The constitution was approved by President Darling and did not need to be approved by the NDUS.



Update Provided By: Susan Cordahl

- The Mayville State University Staff Senate met March 12, 2019.
- We welcomed 3 new members to our Staff Senate. These members are replacing senators we have lost due to employment changes this year.
- We have started our new “Staff Strategies” campaign and are holding our first staff workshop on March 28th. We had conducted a survey to find out what our staff would be interested in learning more about and having some trainings on. Our March 28th workshop is on Office 365 and OneDrive. These workshops will continue to occur each month on various topics.
- Our Staff Potluck scheduled for March 14 was cancelled due to weather (imagine that!). We are planning to reschedule our staff potluck for the end of the semester (right after grades are due).
- Still working on our Comet Pride Scholarship selections for the 19-20 academic year. We also put together a committee to review our Bylaws and bring any suggested changes to our next meeting.
- Our next Staff Senate Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 9th.



Update Provided By: Kowan O’Keefe

- Our most recent High Five Award winner was Doreen Wald.
- The annual Staff Senate Silent Auction is underway. Proceeds from this year's event will be donated to the Magic City Discovery Center.
- Tickets for the annual Staff Senate Scholarship Raffle are now available from all Staff Senators. They are \$10 each and there will be lots of cash prizes available including a \$500 grand prize. Proceeds from the raffle will be put toward the MSU Staff Senate Scholarship Endowment.



Update Provided By: Bruce Woytassek

- Marketing Committee – Chair – Senator Woytassek
 - The Marketing committee is gearing up for the Spring Newsletter. The committee is experimenting with a newsletter format created with Microsoft Sway. Send any article ideas or candid NDSCS staff photos for the newsletter to Senator Woytassek.
- Very favorable and positive reviews were shared for the first issue of the “Staff Spotlight” featuring 5 Staff employees each month with volunteered information to know them better.
- Sustainability Committee – Chair – President Hinrichs
 - This committee discussed increasing membership on this committee to include other stakeholders on campus as well as Staff Senate members.
- New Business
 - The Senators reviewed the results of the nomination survey. Senators will reach out to the staff members that received the most votes in each job band.



Update Provided By: Danielle Pinnick

- Mark Wallman from IT joined to take questions, comments, and concerns about IT. One major change is two-factor authentication rollout, which has been implemented in many academic departments. Also discussed were tech fees, wifi/internet issues, and other programs that are used by various departments.
- Jody Bohn Baldock and Tom Jirik from NDSU Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute came to discuss their department and what they do. Information can be found at www.ugpti.org
- Student Gov. Delegate Marisa Pacella reported SB2297 in committee; this relates to building updates (Dunbar, Morrill, etc.)
- NDSU 44/60 senators for next year – can join at any time. May mtg will be inaugural mtg
- Legislative updates given by Danielle Pinnick: discussed raise structure, recently passed in the senate:
 - 2% in 2020, 120 minimum, 220 maximum (assurance of raises)
 - 2.5% in 2021 with a pool of money distributed to institutions and doled out as they decide (no assurance of raises)as well as the bills to watch: SB 2320 (freedom of speech) and SB 4016 (changes to state higher ed board). NDU will visit NDSU Fall 2019 or Spring 2020 to discuss how these raise changes will be implemented and how to advocate for an equitable distribution of raises. Staff and faculty presence at NDU legislator forum really impacted how lawmakers felt going into negotiations about health care and raises.
- NDSU Staff Senate Scholarship committee raised over \$200 for their scholarship bank, and have another fundraising opportunity this Friday at Barnes and Noble. Can be done online the 5th through the 10th with a code. May 5th there will also be a fundraiser at Chiptole. \$2600 in scholarships have been awarded, this year.
- Campus Engagement Committee organized a blood drive, earlier this month, and collected dry pasta for local food banks, at today's meeting. Next month they will collect toys for the Ronald McDonald House.
- The Gunkleman Award will be held next month, to recognize people who make others at NDSU smile.
- Sustainability committee held a composting event, last month. Group is working with plastic bag sustainability to add drop recycling locations.
- Staff Senate formed an Ad Hoc group to create a Facebook group
- Danielle Pinnick discussed Public Health Week events, at NDSU www.ndsu.edu/publichealth



Update Provided By: Jeremy Malheim

- UND Staff Senate kicked off its new half hour Leadership Series with a talk from Nanci Wilson. This series is designed to give Staff Senators (and other staff as it is open to anyone who wishes to attend) an opportunity to improve their leadership skills and to share what they learn with other staff in their respective areas who might not be able to attend.



Update Provided By: Kari Bodine

- Staff Senate delivered staff appreciation gifts in March which were well received by staff.
- Broadband meetings for the semester are scheduled for the 16th-17th of April to communicate progress from survey results and recommendations.
- Our employee recognition dinner will feature music from our brass band.
- Senator nominations will be accepted through May 3rd so voting may take place before the June meeting.



Update Provided By: Megan Kasner

- No updates.