



## Campus Updates – August 2016

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**BISMARCK**  
STATE COLLEGE

Update Provided By: Retha Mattern

- No updates.



Update Provided By: Randy Wald

- Employee survey results committee will be providing an action plan hopefully at our next meeting.
- CTSOSS voted to implement an annual scholarship for CTS/System Office Staff employee dependents. A committee is currently working out the details.



Update Provided by: Mike O'Toole

- No updates.



Update Provided By: Krissy Kilwein

- On Wednesday, August 3 we had our monthly meeting; committees, chairs, and other staff representatives were determined, including representatives for the Faculty Senate and Student Senate. We took new individual and group photos and will be working with the Communications and Public Affairs Department on transitioning our Staff Senate webpage to the new layout and archived documents to SharePoint.
- On Friday, August 5, the Security & Emergency Management department hosted Coffee & Conversation at Stoxen Library with a great turnout.
- The Senate Presidents (Faculty, Staff, and Student), met with the President of the University on Tuesday, August 9 in efforts to start the year off on the right foot and with open communication.

- The August DSU Staff Senate Meeting was held on Wednesday, August 3 at 1:30pm in May Hall room 301 with IVN capabilities so that our Bismarck Staff are able to participate, as well.
- We are transitioning to SharePoint (from the U: drive and the website), an overview/brief training will be conducted during our Welcome Back/Orientation week (August 16).
- We used a ranking system for determining committees (thanks to discussion at the June f2f meeting) and it worked well.
- We are starting the fall semester with a number of events, including:
  - Wearing jeans on Fridays – a portion of the proceeds will go to the Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Center this quarter.
  - Coffee & Conversation on Friday, August 5 hosted by Security & Emergency Management at Stoxen Library from 9-10am.
  - Popcorn with the President on Friday, August 12 in Beck Auditorium following the President’s Cabinet Town Hall Style Open Forum from 2-3pm.
  - Friday, August 26 during Popcorn Friday, staff Brags will be shared and a prize winner will be drawn from those submitted this month.
  - [Above and Beyond Third Quarter Nominations](#) are due Tuesday, August 31
  - And, the [current website](#) has been updated with photos and contact information of our new senators.
- The next Staff Senate meeting will be September 3 at 1:30pm.



Update Provided By:

- No update submitted.



Update Provided By: Jessica Amb

- We are still working on our Comet Pride Buttons project so that they are ready to go for fall. The buttons have arrived and we are finalizing all the staff perks. The perks this year are wearing jeans on Friday, \$1 off any meal at the cafeteria on Fridays, free fountain beverage with purchase of a sandwich on Fridays, free pop and popcorn at a sports event, an additional 10% off of clothing at the bookstore, a chance to win admission tickets to 3 events on campus, and a noon pizza lunch for 15 people, a theatre ticket to a MSU production, and one free month at the wellness center. We will have a booth set up to promote the buttons during pre-service. The buttons will cost \$40 and all money raised will go towards the Comet Pride Scholarship for dependents or spouse of MSU faculty and staff.
- We are also working on getting an anonymous survey set up so that staff can voice on any issues or concerns that they would like staff senate to work on. We would plan on sending this survey out a week prior to our meetings.
- New Employee Gifts/Welcome Packet: All new staff will receive a letter from staff senate about who we are and what we do along with a coupon to receive a candy bar at the bookstore.
- Fall Staff Association Meeting has been scheduled for October 4<sup>th</sup> at 2pm



Update Provided by: Linda Benson

- Minot State University Staff Senate is coordinating the MSU Fall Kickoff Aug. 17, the evening following convocation. Conscious of fiscal concerns, faculty and staff and their families will gather in the Quad on campus for food, entertainment, and fun before the new academic year begins. Rockwall climbing and a cupcake walk are among the activities planned for children.
- Staff Senate has formed its committees for this academic year, and they are mapping out what their focuses will be.

- A staff satisfaction survey was posted online. The results will be presented at convocation and posted on the Staff Senate webpage.
- Staff Senate will also participate in Homecoming activities Sept. 13-17. Activities will include the Community Block Party and the Homecoming Parade.



Update Provided By: Nick Kraft

- We are currently establishing our Senate Goals for the 2016-17 year.
- We are evaluating our subcommittees, for continued need, as well as goal setting.
- We have completed our Staff Senate brochure, and have it in the opening week packet, as well as available for the onboarding for new hires. (completing a goal from 2015-2016)
- We have all of the work finalized, so we can award the first ever NDSCS Employee Dependent Scholarship this year. (creating this endowment completed another goal from 2015-2016)



Update Provided By: Ryan Brinkman

- We are currently looking at bylaws and constitutions ensuring there is a clear difference.
- Also, we are preparing for opening with other departments on campus.



Update Provided By: Pam Henderson

- President Kennedy has begun work on a strategic planning process. The committee will be co-chaired by Dana Harsell, Chair of the University Senate, and Laurie Betting, Interim VP for Student Affairs. They are still in the process of forming the committee, which will begin its work on August 25<sup>th</sup> at an all day advance/retreat.
- Staff Senate will participate in two parades during the fall semester: the Potato Bowl Parade on September 17<sup>th</sup> and the Homecoming Parade on October 15<sup>th</sup>.
- We will once again host our annual *Denim and Diamonds* event on October 28<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds from the silent auction go to support our Seeds for Staff Success Program.
- The Staff Recognition Committee is preparing for State Employee Recognition Week, which will be held the week of September 12-16. Events include a luncheon w/wellness fair, a breakfast for night employees, and a pie/ice cream social.
- Staff Senate will be working on its goals and priorities for the 2016-17 Academic Year. Each committee has been asked to report back to our Executive Committee for our August 24<sup>th</sup> meeting to assist us in moving forward.



**VALLEY CITY**  
**STATE UNIVERSITY**

Update Provided By: Greg Carlson

- Staff Senate is hosting a Staff Open Forum during Faculty and Staff Welcome Week.
- We are asking for staff input to assist with enhancing engagement.
- We have had an open dialogue about the campus budget, including holding open forums for input.



Update Provided By: Katie Peterson

- Williston State College hosted the annual Relay for Life event on campus July 30<sup>th</sup>. Williston State's relay team raised a total of \$4,194.69. See pictures below from the event. This is the second year WSC has hosted the event on campus.

