



Campus Updates – December 2016



Update Provided By: Retha Mattern

- BSC Staff Senate has not met, yet this month, as they meet on the third Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be meeting held on December 20th.



Update Provided By: Randy Wald

- Taking applications from our staff for our new scholarship for dependents!
- Had a very successful Red, White, and Blue campaign to send gift packages to our soldiers overseas.



Update Provided By: Mike O'Toole

- Filled vacant Secretary position on DCB Staff Senate.
- DCB Staff Senate planned/prepared for upcoming DCB Staff/Faculty Christmas Party.
 - Set date/time/location
 - Planned activities
- Proposed amendments to DCB's Staff Senate Bylaws were approved by staff body.
- DCB Staff Senate President attended the first Administration Council meeting
 - First meeting was to inform participants of the intent and purpose of the council
 - Council will continue to meet regularly on a monthly schedule
- DCB Staff Senate discussed our Children in the Workplace policy
 - Will be forming a sub-committee to review the policy and create a proposal for amending the policy.



Update Provided By: Krissy Kilwein

- Announced three Above & Beyond winners for the 4th Quarter of 2016. Along with a certificate, these three Staff Members will receive a gift card to the University Store.
- Hosted the Goody Gobble for students, faculty, and staff during finals week. Having so many donated goodies, we were able to set up a table a second day even!
- Hosted a 50/50 Raffle with the winner earning \$87.
- Helped share the holiday spirit while hosting a Gift Wrapping table.



Update Provided By: Brigitte Greywater

- On December 7th, we held LRSC's annual Christmas party. We had great attendance. Staff Senate sponsored the activities.
- We are offering two First Aid/CPR classes next week open to staff. We have 23 of the 24 openings filled.
- We are looking to add professional development opportunities during spring break week.



Update Provided By:

- No update provided.



Update Provided By: Mindy Rudnick and Linda Benson

- Staff Senate livened up the campus with its annual Holiday Decorating Contest. The Office of Facilities Management won the overall award. To increase morale, the Public Relations Committee also sponsored other activities during Holiday Week.
 - The MSU Staff Senate held Holiday Spirit week the week of December 5th through 9th. Events included Red and Green Day, Ugly Sweater Day, Sugar Cookie Decorating with hot chocolate, and concluded

with our Holiday Decorating Contest judging on Friday. This year's contest theme was Favorite Christmas Song. There were ten departments across campus competing and Facilities Management won overall with "Santa got run over by a John Deere." Photos from the judging can be found on the Minot State Facebook page.

- The Senate has not had a regular meeting since our November State Senate meeting.
- For professional development, Staff Senate sponsored presentations on Outlook, Shoretel, Excel, and MSU's new admission standards.
- The Bylaws and Legislative Committee brought forth a calendar for Staff Senate that was approved. IT continues to research to formulate a proposal for a staff emeritus policy. The Scholarship Committee is accepting applications through December 15 and will determine recipients December 16. Other committees continue working toward fulfilling their purposes.



Update Provided By: Bruce Woytassek

- Staff Senate Marketing Committee will research adding a monthly column to the "E-Transmitter," a bi-weekly campus newsletter.
- Gift Wrapping Scholarship funding events are going well.
- A food drive will be scheduled after the first of the year.
- President Phares-Oren provided an update of the Staff Senate goals and progress up to this date. "We are Rockin' it!"
 - The professional development survey is postponed until February.
 - Gift-wrapping and food drive in January are events that are taken place to help growing the scholarship fund.
 - Bylaws and Constitution committee has a draft of job duties for officers and scope of expectations for Senators.
- A Draft Description, "Scope of Staff Senate Expectations" was presented.
- The Marketing committee sent out the 1st quarterly newsletter and are utilizing the campus Intranet as a target audience for communications.
- A new parking committee was formed to track the parking changes and use on campus.
- Senators discussed the possibility of forming a special committee to encourage recruitment to Staff Senate before the email where employees vote for their nominations to Staff Senate is sent in the spring.
- The NDSCS Staff Senate was represented at the NDSCS Fargo 20th Anniversary with many state representatives present.



Update Provided By: Ryan Brinkman

- We are currently working on our NDSU Day of Honor for January 11th.
- At our last meeting, we discussed an issues with parking that was brought to our attention from one of the staff members on campus.
- Our Public Relations committee is looking at social media use, another way for us to connect with staff on campus and showcase what we are doing.



Update Provided By: Amber Flynn

- UND celebrated the end of the semester with their annual Staff Senate potluck. Members of the administration were also invited to dialogue with Staff Senators and hear about all of the things we accomplished this semester. We also held our annual Tubs of Love event, in which donations from UND students, staff, and faculty were solicited to be given to organizations within the Grand Forks Community. We distributed hygiene products to our local Community Violence Intervention Center (CVIC) and the Grand Forks Detox Center.
- The Community Relations committee of Staff Senate made the recommendations to move all Denim Days to Fridays, resulting in Denim Spirit Days. This will be a one-year trial and faculty and staff can now sign up to participate through payroll deduction.
- At the Annual Denim and Diamonds event held this Fall, UND raised \$9,207 to put into a fund for Staff scholarships. This dollar amount will also be matched by the President's Office. Staff members are eligible to apply for Seeds for Staff Success and may be awarded up to \$500 each year.



Update Provided By: Greg Carlson

- Staff Senate is continuing to work on sorting the results of our recent Employee Satisfaction Survey. We have had great discussion and are now working towards some ideas to present to cabinet.
- A subcommittee of Staff Senate has organized a Secret Holiday Viking gift exchange that is happening this week. Participants are encouraged to share some holiday love and find little gifts to share with their secret Viking each day this week.

- A recognition banquet was recently held for the V-500 scholarship program donors and volunteers and a campus holiday video was shared. We invited students, faculty, and staff to tell us what they are grateful for this holiday season and made a short video to share with our supporters! The video will be posted to the homepage of www.vcsu.edu and our Facebook page!
- Our second winter commencement ceremony will be held in Vangstad Auditorium on Thursday, December 15.



Update Provided By: Katie Peterson

- Williston State College Staff, in conjunction with Student Life, have focused this month on providing much needed stress relief to faculty, students, and staff members during the end of the semester. Activities have included providing students with snacks, stress relief during finals week, and a Holiday window/door decorating contest on campus that students, staff, and faculty could participate in.
- WSC continues to have a non-voting staff member sit on faculty senate, as well as, invite a student and faculty member to attend staff senate meetings as non-voting members. This helps to increase communication between the different bodies on campus.