



University Staff Council Newsletter

Issue 9: Fall Semester 2021

A Note from the Chair

Greetings.

As the new chair of the University Staff Council I'm looking forward to the coming year and working with you. I've been on campus since 1992 and have spent the entire time with Murphy Library. With everything that has been going on this past year or so it's great to see people walking around campus and things trying to return to as normal as can be expected.

We have an opportunity to make a difference here at UWL and in the community at large. Think about joining a committee if asked, helping out with activities like the food and blood drives, Toy drives for children at Ft McCoy and so many other activities that might come your way. We hear so often that we are the backbone of the campus, let's prove them right. The council meets the second Tuesday of every month from 2-3 in room 235 Graff Main Hall. I hope to see you there.

Terry Stika USC chair

Get Involved with USC



member if you have questions about the meetings.

Attend a meeting!

Get involved by coming to a meeting; talk with your supervisor about coverage and then just show up! Reach out to a council

Meet Your Current University Staff Council



Top Row: Terry Stika chair, Karen DeSchepper vice chair, Kim Schliebe secretary/treasurer, Pearl Bearhart.

Middle Row: Ben Kolpitcke, Domingo Carrion, Leslie Fell, Tom Fell

Bottom Row: William Klein, David Pohnl, Jeanne Voss, Becky Yoshizumi

Meetings

The Council consists of 13 elected members and meets on the second Tuesday of every month.. ****NEW this year, 2021! Please join us starting at 1:45 p.m. for networking.***Meetings are open to all university staff. Come hear what is happening with UWL and the council in Faculty Senate room, 325 Graff Main Hall.

New council members for 2021-22

Pearl Bearhart, Karen DeSchepper, Leslie Fell, William Klein, Ben Kolpitcke and Jeanne Voss. We can have one more member representing facilities, so if you are interested please contact any council member.

USC Rotary Lights 2021



USC will again be participating in Rotary Lights which goes from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day at Riverside Park. Volunteer opportunities for lights and park setup, USC tree setup and teardown. Stay tuned.



Committee Assignments

All university staff members are eligible to serve on a committee and may self-nominate. A university wide request to serve is sent usually early in June each year. Look [here](#) to see who is currently serving you.

Committee vacancies

Still looking for volunteers to serve

Academic Initiatives Oversight Committee

Joint Committee on Multicultural Affairs

Committee on Parking & Appeals

Faculty Senate - Ad hoc Work Life Committee

(following last year's ad hoc Caregiver Taskforce Committee

Contact any council member if interested.

US Excellence Award

The University Staff Excellence Award is given annually to a member of the University Staff who has shown excellence in performance, personal interaction, initiative and creativity. The recipient has supported the university and its mission through positive interaction with the university and the community.

Britney Heineman was this year's recipient of the University Staff Excellence Award! You can read more about her and the award [here](#):



The University Staff Excellence Committee is all about recognition. The committee assists in

organizing an annual breakfast to recognize 5-year milestones for University Staff and gives an annual award to an exceptional university staff member to recognize the work they do for UWL.

US Excellence Committee Members: Michelle Edge, Jeanne Voss, Amy Servais, Beth Naas and Kim Schliebe

Total Title and Compensation [link](#)

August 30 will begin title review and November 7 full titles will be uploaded to HRS. It was suggested that HR attend the October or November USC meeting to discuss TTC and answer questions

Recap of Spring/Summer 2021

University Staff Excellence Milestones



The University Staff Excellence Breakfast traditionally awards university staff that reach five-year service milestones. This year we had an outside boxed lunch. Listed here are the milestone achievers.

35 years: Vickie Baer, Dave Thingvold.

30 years: Jo Ann Kuester, Milo Velimirovic.

25 years: Vincent Cacciapaglio.

20 years: Stephen Harris, Karen Kindschy, Daniel Kruger, Kathryn McInerney, John Sandry.

15 years: Jeri Baller, Mark Beckerjeck, Thomas Fell, Dean Hall, Katie Herman, James Hurlbert, Cary Koel, Amy McDonald, Cassidy Miles, Kenneth Miller

10 years: Dustin Barton, David Clements, Kevin Dinsmore, Michael Durand, Mary Grattan, Judith King, Angela Kvalheim, Timothy Merrell, James Olson, Marie Rieber, Travis Stuckey.

5 years: Julie Ahearn, Kelly Arnost, Kimberly Berg, Kathy Helgerson, David Kelley, Jessica Kendhammer, Thomas Kreibich, Jacob Rybold, Abigail Springman, Rebecca Strandlie, Kristopher Teachout, Doua Thao, Nhia Thao, Vanton Thao, Kiley Yttri.



Congratulations to all who celebrated milestones!

USC Showcase: WITTICH

Please come tour Wittich Hall on Thursday, October 28, 2:30-4 p.m.



Wittich has been transformed. Come and see it; have a tour and refreshments.



These events are put together by the Programs, Grants & Fundraising Committee: Karen DeSchepper (chair), Ben Cornforth, Kellie Flottmeier, Ingrid Iverson, and Becky Yoshizumi



Upcoming Events & Opportunities

Professional Development Grant Update

GRANT DEADLINES: October 1; February 1; June 1
[Applications](#) are currently being accepted for the **2021 University Staff Council (USC) Professional Development Grant program.**

The submission deadline has been extended to October 15, 2021.

*Submissions are for professional development events that occur **November 2021 through February 2022***

Instructions on how to apply can be found on the USC website: www.uwlax.edu/university-staff-council/university-staff-professional-development-grant. A sample of the application is available to help you in preparing answers before completing the official Qualtrics application survey.

USC is eager to put these dollars to work to improve the skills and industry awareness of University Staff. This program is just one more way that USC is adhering to the Sustaining Excellence priority of Investing in Our People. These grant funds can be used to bring a speaker to campus or attend non-credit training, conferences, seminars, etc. that will improve an employee's ability to do their job. More information about this program is available on the website. Applications will be reviewed by a committee, and awards will be granted at the discretion of the committee. Awards will be dependent upon monies available and number of eligible applicants.



Employee Educational Assistance Program

Don't forget we also have the Employee Educational Assistance Program available through the university. Reimbursements are available for job-related and for career-related courses.

More detailed information about the program can be found [here](#).

Employee Enrichment Day Committee

Is currently on hiatus but looking to start up again this year - if you are interested in helping to plan the next event, please contact Becky Yoshizumi byoshizumi@uwlax.

Join in the Halloween Food Drive Competition



Decorated food drive boxes will be around campus again. *Leadership & Involvement Center staff will come around and trick or treat for canned goods and food items for the Campus Food Pantry. We will be judging the best box/ office decorations and the number of food items collected in each office or department. Prizes will be awarded to the winning office. Contact LIC@uwlax.edu for more information*



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- [ETF Webinars](#) Learn about your benefits
- [Covid Dashboard](#)