



# University Staff Council Newsletter

Issue 1: Spring semester 2017

## A note from the Chair

Happy New Year!

If you are like many, you put together a list of resolutions for the New Year. And if you are like me, you probably have already let one or two fall by the way side. I know it isn't January 1<sup>st</sup> but I challenge you to add one more, get engaged. You as university staff possess many talents. Find a way to use those talents to get engaged, with University Staff Council, elsewhere on campus or your community.

There are many ways to get involved with your University Staff Council. Some require little commitment; share your opinion with a council member or attend one of the monthly meetings. Some require a little more time; serve on a committee or as

an elected member of the council. Remember University Staff Council is your council, your voice.

Thank you for all of your hard work. I encourage you to reach out to myself or other members of the council with questions and comments on anything university related.



*Mary Grattan, University Staff Council – Chair*

## Meetings

The Council meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 2-3pm in 325 Graff Main Hall. Meetings are open to all university staff. Come hear what is happening with the council. Remaining spring semester meetings are March 14, April 11, May 9, June 13.

## Meet Your Current University Staff Council



Back: Kathy Thoen (Secretary/Treasurer), John Peiper, Bill Grinde  
Front: Ben Kolpitke, Mary Grattan (Chair), Brandon Harris (Vice Chair), Megan Stauffacher  
Not pictured: Jeremiah Collins, Ingrid Iverson, Susanne Koehler, Terry Stika, Jeanne Voss

## History of the Council

The council was established in 2009 as the Classified Staff Advisory Council. Its purpose was serve as an advisory group to the Chancellor and administrators on behalf of classified staff and to give a voice to classified staff outside of union representation. In December 2012, the word advisory was dropped from the title and Classified Staff Council became an official shared governance group at UWL. In July 2015, a state statutory change led to another name change and the council became known as University Staff Council (USC).

UW-La Crosse University Staff Council (USC) works to bridge the gap between university staff and administration, to represent university staff in the campus decision making process, to promote ongoing education and professional development activities for all university staff employees.

## Fall Semester Recap

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### *Celebrate US!*



Celebrate US! attendees gather outside of Centennial Hall

The “Celebrate US” staff development event was held on Thursday, October 13, 2016. It was a time to celebrate the hard work of university staff members, meet University Staff Council members, network and build relationships across campus, and learn ways to get involved.

Thanks so much to the Celebration Team members for all their hard work: Rachel Berry, James, Bushman, Ben Kolpitcke, Mo McAlpine and Becky Yoshizumi.

### *Food Drive*

USC organized a food drive on campus the first week of November. Instead of donating to iFeed, we chose to donate it to the UWL food pantry. We had a great response and want to thank everyone for their help and contributions!



Becky Yoshizumi poses with our food donations

### *Rotary Lights*

University Staff Council was selected to participate in the rotary lights display at Riverside Park this year. Groups of USC volunteers decorated our organization’s tree in November and helped to take down lights throughout the park in January.

## Upcoming events

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### *CPR and AED training*

Officer Dave Pehl, University Police, is partnering with University Staff Council to provide a CPR and AED certification course to university staff members. USC has approved a proposal to cover the \$20 cost of Officer Pehl’s course for all university staff members. Watch for details coming soon!



Officer Dave Pehl answers questions about CPR/AED certification course at the February USC meeting

### *USC Showcase: Murphy Library*

A professional development and networking event focusing on Murphy Library and its resources is being planned for Wednesday, March 22. Watch for details coming soon!



Left: University Staff Council tree at the 2016 Rotary Lights  
Right: Becky Yoshizumi, Rachel Berry, Karen DeSchepper, and Cullen Oldenberg take a selfie with the USC tree