



## Staff Advisory Council

### Report to the Board of Visitors November 2019

The Staff Advisory Council is an elected body of classified, wage, and administrative staff whose purpose is to promote collaboration and ensure open communication channels throughout all levels of the University. The council provides an avenue for employee input and feedback and a means of participating in the design, development, and implementation of University programs, projects, and services. It also strengthens employee awareness of critical issues and provides a valuable perspective for the University community and administration on matters of significant concern to wage, classified, and administrative staff.

### Recent Activities & Events

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#### **2019 Larry Atkins Award Winners**

During the Employee Luncheon, the SAC announced the 2019 Larry Atkins Award winners. We presented three Larry Atkins Awards to acknowledge exceptional workplace contributions for one wage, one classified, and one administrative professional employee. We elevated the Larry Atkins Award this year by including an engraved plate to accompany their cash award. The SAC adopted this recommendation in August to create a unified appearance in presenting staff awards in line with faculty award presentations.

- **David Ludekar-Wage**  
*Building and Grounds Assistant-Gari Melchers Home and Studio*
- **Breece Melkonian-Classified**  
*Senior Laboratory Specialist -Jepson Science Center*
- **John Symonds-Administrative Professional**  
*Application Database Administrator-George Washington Hall*

#### **Employee Appreciation Luncheon**

We had a fantastic Employee Luncheon in October and assisted Human Resources in planning and providing assistance with logistics. We organized and collected food donations during the event to benefit the UMW food pantry in Lee Hall. We successfully collected more than 250 items (12 bags) to benefit UMW students. We also donated an SAC gift basket to the employee raffle.



#### **Mind Power Focus Group**

In October, the SAC Executive Committee participated in a roundtable focus group with Mind Power to discuss UMW, and the characteristics that make it unique for students, staff, faculty, parents and the community. It was a robust session and SAC contributed diverse feedback from across many departments on campus. The SAC is uniquely positioned to provide diverse feedback based on our

ability to attract participants from different employee classifications and departments. We were esteemed by the invitation to share our perspective.

## **Coming up!**

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### **Rappahannock United Way Day of Action**

The SAC will be participating with the Center for Community Engagement to develop plans to engage in the 2019 Day of Action. SAC members have participated in this worthy event in the past – and encourage others to join them this year.

### **Shoe Box Drive November-December**

SAC is collaborating with the Center for Community Engagement to deliver Christmas shoebox donations for kids to benefit HeadStart. We will be collecting donations in November and will stuff boxes during the November 21, 2019 meeting. This service project will be delivered in early December.

### **Stop Hunger Food Drive**

SAC will partner with Campus Dining and Athletics to promote the *Stop Hunger Food Drive*. We will be placing boxes across campus in November and December and promoting this event through our newsletter, social media and regular monthly open meetings.

### **James Farmer Legacy 2020**

The SAC is excited about our ability to participate and promote events related to the James Farmer Legacy 2020 celebration. Juliette Landphair and Sabrina Johnson briefed the SAC group in September and we look forward to assisting with event promotion and staff participation in campus and community events coming in 2020.

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