

Staff Advisory Council (SAC) - A Presidential Committee

Submitted by: Michelle Pickham

Report to the University Faculty Council August 19, 2020

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. The SAC acts in an advisory capacity and is not a policy making body.

New SAC President - Introduction

On July 1, 2020, I, Michelle Pickham, transitioned into the role of SAC President, succeeding Christy Pack. A graduate of UMW Class of 2012, I've worked for the University in Procurement Services since 2014 and have had the privilege to serve on the Staff Advisory Council since 2015. It's my pleasure to also be invited to the UFC meetings and help bridge any communications between our groups.

Staff Concerns

SAC believes that the Staff and Faculty may have some shared concerns and would welcome any partnership to provide a unified-front on these issues:

- Concern about and encouragement for the highest degree of flexibility for working parents with young and school-aged children
- Lack of focus on employees in the planning, direction, instructions, and communications regarding COVID and returning to/working on campus
- Lack of specificity and communication regarding the #ForwardUMW pledge
- Concerns about instances for pettiness and using the COVID Concern form to snitch on fellow employees

Upcoming Events

The SAC is partnering with the Center for Community Engagement to promote stocking of the Eagle Resource Closet:

The Eagle Resource Closet – our campus food & hygiene pantry – WILL be open in Fall 2020. After surveying off-campus students this summer to see if they'd be likely to use the ERC even if the school switched to remote instruction, the results indicated there is a need for the ERC this fall. Please do remember that the ERC is not only just for students, but is also a resource for staff and faculty as well.

The Center for Community Engagement is working out the details of an online ordering system, and contactless pickup and hopes to have these up and running by day 1 of class. In the meantime, we can help with stocking the shelves. Since not all buildings are open or staffed yet, CCE will host 2 days for "drop-off donations" outside of Lee Hall next weekend of this week:

- Thursday Aug 20 from 10a-12p
- Friday Aug 21 from 2-4pm.

Both days you can drive up from Sunken Road, and be met on the circular drive right outside of Lee, to unload your donations. If you would like to donate money to purchase items instead, CCE has a [foundation account](#).

Below is a list of most needed items:

- Cold cereal
- Granola/nutrigrain bars
- Coffee/tea
- Tuna
- Bread
- Peanut butter
- Jelly/jam
- Soups (stew/chili, veggie, chicken noodle - any!)
- Can carrots, mixed veg (not green beans or corn)
- FRUIT. Fresh, cups, cans - any and all.
- Snacks - salty or sweet
- String cheese
- Yogurt
- Drinks - gatorade, water, juice, milk
- Shaving supplies
- Toothpaste
- Cleaning supplies (this is a guess: we *think* it will be desirable)

Upcoming Meetings

Guest speakers for these upcoming meetings are being discussed and scheduled.

- When: Thursday, September 17th, 2020
Where: Zoom - <https://umw-sso.zoom.us/j/96380492856?pwd=ODRpbDJNRGxFanFoZlg3cGJKV1k1Zz09>
Time: 1:00pm – 3:00pm
- When: Thursday, October 15th, 2020
Where: Zoom - <https://umw-sso.zoom.us/j/96380492856?pwd=ODRpbDJNRGxFanFoZlg3cGJKV1k1Zz09>
Time: 1:00pm – 3:00pm

NEW Website!

For years the SAC's website lived apart from the UMW's main website domain on the UMW blogs platform. Working with the web communications team within University Relations, the SAC was able to create its own website on an internal audience-focused domain within the UMW website: <https://in.umw.edu/sac/>

Communication Channels

Website: <https://in.umw.edu/sac/>
Email: sac@umw.edu
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/umwsac>
Twitter: @umwsac