



STAFF SENATE

Staff Senate Newsletter - Spring Semester 2019

President's Report

By: Amy Driscoll McNulty

The Staff Senate continues to provide University staff members with opportunities for open communication, professional enrichment and social engagement. In June of 2018, we welcomed new senators, ratified committee memberships and established priorities for the upcoming year. Our standing committees have done an excellent job hosting and collaborating with partners

to offer events such as: the Employee BBQ, Lunch & Learns, the Christmas Luncheon and the Communication Symposiums. Several staff members provided valuable feedback during the Mission Examen and Middle States review processes. Throughout the year, senators and staff members have been involved on committees to support important searches and review institutional policies. The Senate continues to support those within and outside our community by donating funds and items to University scholarships and local organizations. Finally, true to the spirit of the Jesuit tradition, the Senate renamed the former Spirit Award to the Meg Cullen-Brown Magis Award; honoring our late friend and colleague's legacy with a monthly call to recognize the excellence in one another.

Early in my tenure, I asked the senators to consider the impact of their work in the Senate, and to look critically at the programs and services it provides. In that vein, the Senate has distributed a survey to staff members to formally ask for their feedback. You will find a link to the survey below. Please take a few minutes to fill it out, as this information is important for us in planning for the future.

I would like to thank the senators for their time and commitment. You will read more about their excellent work in the committee reports within this newsletter. I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize all the staff here at The University of Scranton. There is remarkable work happening across this campus in support of each other and our students. I am truly grateful to work alongside you all.

Staff Senate Survey Open Now!

**Please take our survey and let us know how we are doing!
We want to hear from you!**

Survey responses will not be linked to specific individuals; they will remain anonymous. Each constituent group (Clerical, MTTP, Para/Professional) will have individuals randomly selected to win the following: One \$50 Amazon card, one \$25 Walmart card and one \$10 Starbucks gift card.

[Complete Staff Senate Survey](#)

Upcoming Event: Don't Miss It!

The Staff Senate Elections and the Social Events and Community Building Committees invite you to our annual

MEET AND GREET

Tuesday, April 2, 2019
2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

The Rev. Bernard R. McIlhenny, S.J. Ballroom, DeNaples Center 4th Floor

Come and meet the candidates for the upcoming Staff Senate Election.

Hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served.

Computers will be available for voting.

We will be collecting non-perishable foods for the Leahy Clinic.

50/50 tickets will also be sold.

[Please click here to RSVP by March 29, 2019, for yourself or a group](#)

Nominations for the upcoming election are due today!

The following seats are available:

Clerical – 1 seat and 2 alternates

Maintenance/Custodial, Trades, Technical, Police – 6 seats and 2

alternates

Professional/Paraprofessional – 3 seats and 2 alternates

The deadline for submitting nominations is 4:30 p.m!

Email your nomination to (bryn.schofield@scranton.edu)

Meg Cullen-Brown Magis Award

The Meg Cullen-Brown Magis Award has been a wonderful way to recognize and honor our coworkers who exhibit our Jesuit ideal of “men and women for and with others.” In May 2018, at the Staff Senate End of the Year Luncheon, it was announced that the former Staff Senate monthly Spirit Award would be renamed the *Meg Cullen-Brown Magis Award* and the first recipient of this newly-titled award would be selected in June 2018.

The University’s Staff Senate encourages all staff to participate in the nomination process and remind friends and colleagues to consider nominating an individual who they feel has positively impacted our University community, and consistently follows our mission and purpose. **To date, we have awarded 72 staff members with this honor.**

Congratulations once again to our award winners for June to December 2018:

- June – Tom Salitsky – University Advancement
- July – Diane Gavern – Facilities
- August – Joe Anticoli – Facilities
- September – Gerry Loveless – KSOM Advising
- October – Glen Pace – IT/Client Services
- November – Chasity Whitmore – University Advancement

- December – Jess Durkin – External Relations



Meg Cullen-Brown's family receiving the proclamation regarding the renaming of the *Spirit Award* to the *Meg-Cullen Brown Magis Award*.

Staff Senate Committee Updates

The **Staff Recognition & Excellence Committee** continues to support the Sursum Corda award process by soliciting nominations and forwarding them to the Human Resources Office for consideration and review. We know that this is not an easy task to select the award winners since so many of our colleagues on campus are deserving of this acknowledgement. The Recognition and Excellence Committee members, along with the entire Staff Senate, offer our congratulations to this year's winners, announced at the Spring

Convocation: Tara Seely, Maureen Castaldi, Kevin Rude and Jane Johnson.

Work has begun on the End of the Year Celebration and Awards Luncheon. Last year, we celebrated 10 years of accomplishments led by the Staff Senate. The committee also honored outgoing President Mark Murphy, who completed two “tours of duty” as Senate President and held other executive committee member positions in his ten year tenure with Staff Senate. Mark was there when Senate began and he has continued to work with and support the Senate, remaining as a currently elected Staff Senator. The committee and Senate also recognized and thanked Father Keller for all of his work and support during his tenure as Interim President of the University. Finally, we announced the new name for the monthly Spirit Award for the late Meg Cullen-Brown and invited her family to join us at the luncheon to share in this recognition. The luncheon is a wonderful event in that we are acknowledging varied accomplishments of so many staff members across our campus community!

The Election & Membership Committee is tasked with filling vacancies on various University committees and coordinating the annual Staff Senate elections. The Elections and Membership Committee was pleased to assist the Provost in selecting staff representatives to serve on several search committees during the fall semester, including the search for the Dean of KSOM. The annual Staff Senate election will kick off at our Meet and Greet event on April 2, 2019. RSVP by clicking the link above.

The Social Events & Community Building Committee worked through the fall planning the Staff Senate Christmas Luncheon held in December. The Christmas Luncheon, as usual, was a celebration of friendship before the holiday break. Thanks to the 396 staff members who attended, our fundraising efforts for the Leahy Community Health and Family Center were a huge success. We raised \$1,300 and collected 640 lbs. of food to be used to support the Center’s community efforts. Staff Senate committees, offices and

departments donated the baskets. [View the list of baskets and winners.](#) We thank everyone for your generosity!

The Communications Committee was honored to plan the Fall Communication Symposium, cosponsored by the Staff Senate and the Office of Human Resources, on November 1, 2018. We greatly appreciate Jeffrey P. Gingerich, Ph.D., Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Robert W. Davis, Jr., Ed.D., Vice President for Student Life, for joining us as guest presenters. They provided us with an interesting and inspiring look at the work happening in their divisions. We are currently working on plans for the Spring Communication Symposium.

The Staff Development Committee, along with the Office of Human Resources and CHEW, hosted a Lunch and Learn Workshop for Faculty and Staff on December 11, 2018. The topic, Personal Resiliency During Times of Change, was an interesting and relevant look at healthy ways to cope with life-changing events.

Spring Meeting Dates: All Are Welcome! *

March 20, 2019, 10:00-11:30 a.m. in Brennan Hall 500

April 17, 2019, 10:00-11:30 a.m. in Brennan Hall 500

May 15, 2019, 10:30-11:45 a.m. in Brennan Hall 500

*If more than three (3) staff members from your department are planning on attending, please let [Amy Driscoll McNulty](#) know in advance so that adequate arrangements (seating, etc.) may be made to accommodate all guests.

Volunteer Opportunities

You don't have to be a Senator to get involved! Below is a full list of our committees that could use your help. [Visit our website](#) and contact a senator for more details.

- Communications
- Election & Membership
- Finance
- Social Events & Community Building
- Staff Development
- Staff Recognition & Excellence

Interested in learning more?

Contact us: staffsenate@scranton.edu or

Visit our website:

scranton.edu/staff-senate