

Fall Semester 2016

## President's Report

By: Mark Murphy

To Send  
Comments,  
Questions, or  
Suggestions  
Visit Our Website:

[scranton.edu/staffsenate](http://scranton.edu/staffsenate)

or email us:

[staffsenate@scranton.edu](mailto:staffsenate@scranton.edu)

### Meeting Dates

2016  
December 14

2017  
January 11  
February 8  
March 8  
April 12  
May 10

Brennan Hall  
PNC Board Room  
10:00–11:30 a.m.

All Staff Welcomed

In November, The Society of Jesus lost a wonderful and humble leader, the 29th Father General of the Society of Jesus, Fr. Peter-Hans Kolvenbach. Fr. James Martin, SJ commented on an experience he had when he met Fr. Kolvenbach in Boston years earlier. Fr. Martin asked, "Father General, how should we increase vocations?" He answered, "Live your own vocations joyfully!" I recently read these words, and I thought of the service that the members of the Staff Senate perform through-out the year. Each of us has our own vocation and it is always inspiring to see the excellent work that is done by our staff to help improve and strengthen The University of Scranton.

For a good number of years, with the support of the Jesuit Center, Betty Rozelle and I have been participating in a Society of Jesus Maryland Province Magis program that includes discussions on how the work of the Society of Jesus will continue as the number of Jesuits decrease. Part of the answer is through lay collaboration by staff like us. Very good examples of living your own vocation joyfully are our past Staff Senate officers, Joe Wetherell, Caitlyn Hollingshead, and Pauline Palko. These individuals, and others, are great examples of people that give freely of their talents, experience, time, and selves to perform service for others helping to improve our University.

I recently met with a staff senator to review a policy suggestion. In that discussion the passion, care, and concern for all University employees was palpable in each comment and suggested edit. The Staff Senate is a vehicle in which this kind of caring for the University is turned into positive action. I have been pleased to see this same passion and caring many times on numerous topics that we have discussed. We should be proud that we are developing an environment where new ideas are welcomed and staff input is freely given.

When we group our activities together, your efforts, commitments and accomplishments are impressive. This Fall semester Staff Senate initiatives included Lunch & Learns, Spirit Awards, a Communications Symposium, Roundtable meetings, the Connexions Program, ongoing work on the Wellness Time Policy, Presidential Search assistance, the Christmas Luncheon, our newsletter, a new set of Senate officers, new committee chairs, and lively discussions on varied topics.

The spring is always a busy time for the Staff Senate and will include a Communications Symposium, Roundtable meetings, the annual election process and Meet and Greet, Employee BBQ, presenters, 2016/17 Awards Luncheon, and other projects. As we approach the end of 2016 and get ready to enjoy the blessings of our holiday season with co-workers, friends, and family remember to "Live your own vocations joyfully!"

Have a blessed and Merry Christmas.

## LEARN TO STRESS LESS

A WORKSHOP FOR STAFF AND FACULTY

*Each individual responds differently to the pressures of life*  
Learn to balance your stress



Thursday, December 15, 2016 | 11:30 AM – 1PM | Pearn Auditorium (228 Brennan Hall)

Light refreshments provided

RSVP by 12.8.16 to [chew@scranton.edu](mailto:chew@scranton.edu)

Presented by CHEW Employee Wellness, Human Resources, and the Staff Development Committee of the Staff Senate



## Staff Senate Roundtable Dates

**Clerical** - Thursday, December 1, 9:30 a.m. in Loyola Science Center Forum

**Maintenance, Trade, Technical, and Police** - December 12, 2:00 p.m. in Brennan Pearn Auditorium 228

**Professional/Para-professional** - December 14, 11:45 a.m. in Brennan PNC Board Room

**Check the Staff Senate website, and your email, for details and RSVP information relevant to your constituent group.**

## Staff Senate Upcoming Events

**The Staff Development Committee** has teamed up with the Center for Health Education & Wellness and Human Resources to present a Stress Less Workshop on Thursday, December 15 at 11:30 a.m. in the Pearn Auditorium, Brennan 228. This event is open to staff and faculty. Light refreshments will be provided.

**The Social Events and Community Building Committee** is sponsoring a clothing drive in collaboration with Campus Ministries' Center for Service and Social Justice. New socks, hats, gloves, scarves and gently worn sweatshirts will be collected and distributed at the 8th annual Community Christmas Day Breakfast. Please look for the drop off boxes at various campus locations. We are again counting on the overwhelming generosity of our University family!

**The Christmas luncheon** is scheduled for December 20, 2016, beginning at 11:30 a.m. in the DeNaples Center, McIlhenny Ballroom. The proceeds collected will be donated to the Bethel A.M.E Homeless Shelter. The shelter, run by the Bethel AME Institutional Church, offers the area's homeless a place to sleep during the year's coldest months. Watch your mailbox and email for an invitation and please remember to **RSVP!** All Staff Senate Committees will donate special gift baskets for the raffle along with many donations from local business. Raffle tickets can be purchased at the Christmas Luncheon as well as 50/50 tickets.

**The Communications Committee** is devoted to improving communications among members of the University of Scranton community. Thank you to our presenters and all of our staff and faculty that attended the Fall Communication Symposium and made the event such a great success. Our committee is currently looking at potential presenters for our Spring event.

**The Staff Senate Recognition & Excellence Committee** accepts nominations each month for spirited employees. Find the form [here](#) and support your fellow staff members by sending in your nominations by the 26<sup>th</sup> of each month.



**The Staff Senate  
Welcomes you to a  
Christmas Luncheon**

**Tuesday, December 20, 2016**  
(SNOW DATE: Wednesday, December 21, 2016)  
11:30 am ~ 1:00 pm (one sitting)  
Rev. Bernard R. McIlhenny, S.J. Ballroom  
The DeNaples Center - 4th Floor

Please bring a donation of:  
New or Gently used Hoodies; New Hats, Socks, Gloves & Scarves.  
~50/50 Raffle, Baskets, Door Prizes~

This year all proceeds from the sale of the Raffle & 50/50 tickets will benefit the Bethel A.M.E. Church Homeless Shelter

This is a free event for all University Staff employees  
PLEASE RSVP by 12/16  
To: [kristi.klien@scranton.edu](mailto:kristi.klien@scranton.edu)