Welcome to Tunnel Talk, the Wright State University Staff Senate Newsletter. This is the work of the Communication and Marketing committee of Staff Senate. The newsletter is published twice a semester. The schedule for the remainder of the year:
Deadline is Friday, January 29
Deadline is Friday, April 30
Deadline is Friday, October 1
Deadline is Friday, December 3
Publish Thursday, February 4, 2021
Publish Thursday, May 6, 2021
Publish Thursday, October 7, 2021
Publish Thursday, December 9, 2021

Please see the end of the newsletter for calendars!

Staff Senate is for YOU!
The Staff Senate web page is https://www.wright.edu/staff-senate. There is a lot of information there and the newsletters will be there as well in case you would like to refer back to them.

Learn more about the university’s staff representation on the Staff Senate website: https://bit.ly/StaffSenateWSU

The upcoming meetings are open and all are welcome to attend.
Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 9 am to 10:30 am on WebEx http://wright.webex.com/meet/carol.rader
Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 9 am to 10:30 am on WebEx http://wright.webex.com/meet/carol.rader
Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 9 am to 10:30 am on WebEx http://wright.webex.com/meet/carol.rader

The nomination period for 2021-22 Staff Senate elections are quickly approaching in May. Please start thinking about who you would like to nominate to represent you on Staff Senate next year. Watch your email for nominations and voting opportunities.

Changes in Staff Service and Professional Development Policy
To learn more about the policy please click here.

The changes include the addition of 8610.2 B which states:

Wright State University encourages supervisors to support staff in taking advantage of the General Education Benefits Program Policy. This supports lifelong learning as well as the advancement and retention of the university workforce.
1. Employees are permitted to take one Wright State University course per semester during working hours.

2. Additional options for more courses include use of vacation or compensatory time which may be preferred by employees and is permitted but subject to workload and supervisory approval.

3. Employees are required to receive supervisory approval before taking a class during work hours. Supervisors are responsible for ensuring work outcomes and optimal staffing levels continue. Therefore, proactive advance notice of at least 90 days is required.

4. Any dispute between the supervisor and employee on the taking of a course during work hours should be addressed by the Dean and/or functional leader of the administrative unit.

The other update is the language in 8610.3 to reflect the new, combined Staff Senate as opposed to the former Advisory Councils.

Welcome to Wright State University
It is great to have new people on campus! Some of these folks have been at WSU and now have permanent positions or are returning to campus after being away. And some are brand new to WSU. Please give them a warm Raider Welcome. If there are any new personnel in your department, please let us know so we can welcome them.

Debra Monk – Title IX Coordinator/Equity Investigator
Quatez Scott – Intercultural Specialist of the Bolinga Center
Hideo Tsuchida – Director for Articulation, Transfer and Institutional Partnerships
Emily Yantis-Houser – Intercultural Specialist of the LGBTQA Center
Fei Yu – International Student Immigration Advisor

News You Can Use
Wright State University extended the FAFSA priority deadline to April 1, 2021. This deadline is for campus-based aid programs, such as the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant and Federal Work-Study. If you miss Wright State University’s FAFSA priority deadline date you can still apply for federal student aid. Three of the largest federal student aid programs, the Federal Pell Grant, Federal Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loans, and the Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan can still be awarded at Wright State if the FAFSA priority deadline date is not met. For more information on how to file the FAFSA, visit http://www.wright.edu/raiderconnect/financial-aid/file-your-fafsa.

High School Senior Scholarship Deadline Extended to April 1
It’s not too late for high school seniors to apply for scholarships at Wright State University! We’ve extended the deadline this year to allow more students the opportunity to qualify for academic performance and need-based aid for the 21–22 academic year.

Academic and need-based scholarships are valued at $500 to $3,500 and are awarded based on a holistic review of the admission application. High school seniors should complete their admission application by April 1 to be eligible for scholarship consideration. No additional scholarship application is necessary, but we encourage students to review our scholarship requirements as consideration for need-based awards require a completed FAFSA. Visit wright.edu/FirstYearScholarships for more information and scholarship requirements.
Lake Side Updates from our Lake Campus

Lake Campus Spring 2021 Career Days
A FREE, virtual, event open to ALL Wright State students, alumni, and community members for the opportunity to connect with area employers and professionals!

Tuesday, February 23 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.: Engineering

Monday, March 15th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.: Integrated Sciences, Agriculture, and Agriculture Business

Wednesday, March 17th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.: Business, Applied Business, Supervision & Management, Multimedia/Graphic Design, Liberal Studies, Organizational Leadership, Communication, and English

Friday, March 19th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.: Nursing, Social Work, and Psychology

RSVP in Handshake! [https://www.wright.edu/student-success/career-services/handshake-login-guide]
Questions? Email Katy Popplewell, Lake Campus Career Services Advisor: katy.popplewell@wright.edu
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Thank you for reading! The next issue is May 4, 2021. Have information to share in the next newsletter? Send to Debbie Lamp debra.lamp@wright.edu.