President’s Message

Dear LSU Staff,

Welcome to another exciting Spring semester at LSU! I have been a member of the LSU Staff Senate since the summer of 2014 and I am very honored and humbled to serve as your President for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

As you know, the mission of Staff Senate includes promoting and protecting the welfare of LSU staff. Our senators are your advocates, allies and friends. I encourage you to follow us on social media, attend our general meetings, serve on committees, and take advantage of the events, resources and services available through the LSU Staff Senate. Geaux Tigers!

Mentoring Program
Staff Senate, Faculty Senate, and the University Council on Gender Equity established a committee to investigate the implementation of a mentoring program for staff and faculty.

Staff Member Protocol
Staff Senate discovered that there is no official protocol in place for the death of a staff member. While there is a tuition exemption for the children of deceased faculty members and an “In Memoriam” website for faculty, neither are currently in place for staff. Staff Senate is working on a resolution to outline the steps for the protocol.

Lactation Room Resolution
In October 2017, Staff Senate passed Resolution 17-01 requesting LSU administration to create an official lactation policy that provides staff and faculty with a private place and reasonable break time to express breast milk. Faculty Senate is currently working on a similar resolution and representatives from both groups are working with HRM to create an official LSU policy.

Parental Leave Policy
Faculty Senate recently passed Resolution 16-08 to address maternity and paternity leave for faculty after the birth or adoption of a child, and are focusing on the difficulty in accumulating enough leave at the beginning of faculty member’s career at LSU to take an adequate amount of time to care for a newly born or adopted child. Staff Senate is investigating these issues and preparing a resolution to send to LSU administrators.

We Work for You!
Staff Senators are working on several initiatives and programs to benefit staff and their families, and are also partnering with Faculty Senate and HRM to advance others that benefit staff and faculty.

Staff Appreciation

Staff Appreciation Week is a time to celebrate and show our appreciation for the hard work and dedication that our colleagues provide to the university. This year it will be held from April 9 – 13, 2018.
Did you know? 🎓

Were you ever annoyed the campus buildings didn’t have real mail addresses? In our November meeting, LSU Planning, Design and Construction shared with us details about an exciting initiative to address all campus facilities. The goal is for all campus buildings to have a real address like the one at your house. This should help with shortening emergency response times and mail delivery, to name a few benefits. For more info, search “Campus Addressing Initiative” on the main LSU website.

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Meet Your Senators

Igor Matkovic started his career at LSU Facility Services in August 2000 unable to speak English. “The people here gave me the tools, opportunities, the will and courage to succeed,” Matkovic thrived at LSU where he soon learned English and received a promotion to a supervisor position. He began to work tirelessly to help staff members in his department earn their high school diploma and also volunteered in different capacities. “I search within myself every day to find a way in which I can contribute in some small way to help others,” he said. He currently serves as a Staff Senator in the Budget and Finance Committee and co-chairs the Governmental Relations committee. He also volunteers at the Catholic diocese community service center as a translator and helps new refugees find employment. Thank you for your service!

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Staff Senate & Fee Support Scholarships

These scholarships were created to offer assistance to both LSU staff and dependents of any LSU staff member, active or retired. For more information, call or email the Staff Senate Office.

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Candy Grams

In November, nearly 600 candy grams were assembled and delivered. This effort raised $705 dollars. There were also 10 entries for the 2017 Holiday Decorating Contest which raised $200. Proceeds from these events go to the Staff Senate Fee Support Scholarship.

Candy grams are a great way to express gratitude and friendship to your colleagues and friends around campus. For only $2.25 each, you can send candy grams to anyone on campus. If you are interested in sending a candy gram, please complete the online order form at lsufoundation.org/candygram by 4:30 p.m. on March 16. Visit our website for more information. Thank you for your support!

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Move-In Day

Volunteering is of great importance to us. Every year, the LSU Staff Senate participates in Move-In Day. This is an event organized by Residential Life with the goal of assisting students in moving into their residence halls and making them feel welcomed.

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Mark Your Calendars

- March: Spring Candy Grams
- March 5: Staff Senate General Elections
- March 21: Scholarships Awards
- April 2: Staff Senate Election Ballots Distributed
- April 9-13: Staff Appreciation Week
- April 10: Staff Night at Alex Box
- April 12: New Staff Reception
- April 18: Staff Senate Officer Elections
- June: New Senator Orientation

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LSU Lagniappe

Working for LSU has many benefits. First, we get bragging rights for working at the Flagship institution of the state. But also, you get discounts on various items and services. This includes discounts for cellular service, home security, travel, local stores like Barnes and Noble and the Tiger Gift Center, and more! You can find out more by visiting the Employee Hub at lsu.edu/employeeshub.