

UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD

Staff Council Meeting Agenda

April 12, 2023 | Online (Zoom)

I. Consent Agenda

Please indicate if you would like to move any items from the consent agenda to the regular agenda for further discussion. Otherwise it will be approved as-is.

II. Guest Speakers: Dave Stender and Jenn Siegal

III. Reports

DEI Task Force. Anthony Ferello

Faculty Senate. Ben Ide

Faculty Senate met March 20 for their open meeting and March 23 for Senate business. At the open meeting, Interim Provost Katherine Black talked about the current fiscal difficulty and reviewed ideas for closing the budget gap, then answered questions. Jamie Skowrya, our Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, also spoke and answered questions, explaining the issue with the University's debt covenants and what would happen if we could not meet our obligations or our Standard & Poor's rating didn't improve.

Provost Katherine Black returned for the March 23 meeting to talk about proposed program changes. Afterwards the Faculty Senate committees reported on their activities, followed by a general discussion on the recent changes in the administration and Board of Regents.

Some faculty expressed support for staff unionization, perhaps with the help of The 4Cs, the adjunct faculty union organization. If any staff are interested, they should contact Edgar Aracena (edgar@the4cs.org).

Nominating Committee. John Strand

Results are in! New officers begin their terms at this meeting.

RPPC. Ben Ide and Laura D'Angelo-Gohn

RPPC meets April 6.

Staff Council Annual Report. Lisa Read

IV. Announcements

Outstanding Staff Awards

Nominations for the Outstanding Staff Awards are now open year-round! Here is the nomination form: <https://www.hartford.edu/about/offices-divisions/human-resources-development/outstanding-staff-award/outstanding-staff-member-award-nomination-form.aspx>.

Spring Kickball Game

The students vs. faculty and staff kickball game will be held on the GSU lawn, Friday, April 21st, noon-2pm; and the rain date is Friday, April 28th, noon-2pm. There is still time to sign up! We want plenty of staff so we have a full team to battle the students. Sign up to play by emailing stconduct@hartford.edu.

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I. Minutes Approval

Minutes for the March meeting are available here: https://hartford0-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/personal/staff_hartford_edu/EhzNQI2q8QZludLVdCilq5YBFi98X1DLi3CPLQcyiMmhTg?e=loKsuu. They shall be approved as written.

II. Reports and Announcements

Benefits Task Force. Traci Giovinazzo and Desirée Kleykamp

No report. BTF did not meet in March due to spring break.

Environmental and Sustainability Committee. Sandra Rampertab

The Environmental Sustainability Committee is in the process of planning an Earth Day contest to highlight the many ways environmental waste is produced. Students can take a picture of themselves engaging in activities that protect the environment, then share the pictures on social media (#UHartEarthDay). There will be display tables at Dining, Facilities, ResLife, and maybe SGA. Each table will provide information showcasing what each department has done to minimize waste. The details are still in development stages.

Staff Compensation Committee

The work is almost done, just waiting on the Athletics/Coaches salary benchmark assessments from the consultants. Jen Conley, President Woodward, and the Finance Team are working to designate funds and determine timing for rollout. They still plan to hold a town hall to present information from the study and answer questions. Additionally, staff who will be affected by updated ranges will receive personal notification regarding changes to their salary.

III. Open Positions

The following Staff Council positions are currently open: Grievance Officer and Community Rep for Hillyer. Contact staff@hartford.edu to volunteer yourself or nominate a colleague, or if you have questions about the positions.

IV. Future Meetings

Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 1pm. Upcoming dates:

- May 10, 2023
- June 14, 2023
- July 12, 2023 (tentative, may cancel)