



Staff Council President's Report

Board of Trustees

May 17, 2024

Prepared By

Monika Donlevy, Staff Council President

Members of the Board,

This past Spring has been a busy time on campus for faculty, students and staff punctuated by the stunning solar eclipse, it was even better than anticipated! It was especially meaningful for the Staff Council to collaborate with Tom Borchert, President of the Faculty Senate and Ellen Brennan, program administrator for the Vermont Space Grant Consortium, on different initiatives. Another highlight was Trustee Chair Ron Lumbra's visit to our April meeting. The insight and ideas that resulted from the meeting have stimulated new plans that we are looking forward to developing.

We partnered with Ellen to distribute eclipse glasses and pass out Moon Pie treats on campus. Our Social Committee sponsored a workplace decorating contest that got us in the mood for spring and the eclipse. The Community Engagement Committee is reevaluating its mission to ensure it is relevant and will address bylaws changes as needed. They continue to offer fun on-campus events such as greenhouse tours and campus walks. Our Personal & Professional Development Committee hosted our first CATChat, inspired by TedTalks. We heard from a hot air balloon pilot, an indigenous flutist, and how communicating properly can really be a matter of life or death. These events share a common thread, celebration of, and with each other.

I am pleased to highlight the wonderful efforts of our Compensation, Benefits and Budget Committee who are working hard on behalf of those staff not represented by a union about 660 individuals. The committee surveyed non-represented and retired staff on issues they would like to see addressed in the coming year. The response was high for both groups and the committee are reviewing the results to prioritize initiatives.

These activities and the ones planned for this summer are focused on bringing people from across campus and beyond together as One UVM. Our members are actively collaborating with other governance units to work on solutions for shared areas of improvement. This past quarter included the addition of a senior leadership meeting with Strategic Communications leadership. We are excited to work together to ensure communications are relevant and streamlined for the most effective delivery across campus.

I am inspired by the positive energy and hard work of our council members and enjoy witnessing colleagues reap the rewards of our efforts. We share your goal of adapting and evolving so that UVM will be strong today as well as in the future for generations to come.

With gratitude,
Monika