SUMMARY OF THE UVM STAFF COUNCIL MEETING – February 3, 2015

This summary provides the most relevant information for staff from Staff Council’s recent meeting.

There were no presentations by guests and as a result the majority of the meeting was dedicated to discussion and ideas for Staff Council Outreach from the last Staff Council meeting on January 6, 2015.

Public Comment Period

One individual shared their reaction and feelings about the UVM Staff Council’s Social Committee Casino Bus Trip.

Staff Council Outreach Discussion

In follow up to the exercises completed at the January 6, 2015 meeting, Staff Council continued to reflect on ways to identify long standing staff concerns, advocate for change to address these concerns, and find ways for the Council and University leaders to better understand the staff perspective. In groups, Council members were asked several questions and given two questions using hypothetical scenarios about common concerns staff often express about salaries and benefits as well as consistency and accountability around the staff experience at UVM were discussed. In response to these questions a number of areas were identified as needing improvement, but much of the discussion focused on performance appraisals, supervisory training, and professional development/career progression.

Officer’s Update

The full Officer’s update is posted online on the President of Staff Council’s webpage and highlights recent meetings with the Vice President for Executive Operations, presenting remarks to the UVM Board of Trustees at the Feb. 6 meeting and attending UVM’s celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. featuring Wil Haygood, New York Times best-selling author of The Butler: A Witness to History, Associate Producer of the award-winning motion picture The Butler and acclaimed Washington Post reporter.

Standing Committee Reports

A brief survey was passed out to Staff Council members and audience members at this meeting to garner input for the Social Committee. The survey included potential activities or events for individuals to rank as well as questions seeking other potential ideas and whether or not to hold summer events.

Staffline:

The submission deadline for the March edition of Staffline is Friday, January 13, 2015. This edition will be distributed on Monday, March 2, 2015.

Staff Council Meeting:

The next Staff Council Meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 3, 2015 from 12:05pm – 1:30pm in the Livak Ballroom, Davis Center.