Staff Council Officer’s Report

August, 2015

STAFF COUNCIL LEADERSHIP UPDATE MEETING

On June 3, 2015, Jeff, Johanna and I met with Gary Derr, Vice President for Executive Operations. We discussed University construction, and learned that a website was being created to focus all the construction updates to communicate to campus. We discussed the UVM Comprehensive Campaign, and how Staff Council and staff at large can be involved in supporting it. We were encouraged to meet with Rich Bundy President and CEO of the UVM Foundation and his team to talk about this. We planned our meetings for the summer with Gary and Wanda Heading-Grant to discuss the objectives outlined in our Staff Council Outreach Report. We also discussed Peer Advisor and Grievance Committee member training which is an Administration summer “To Do”, Tobacco Free UVM (the comment period was ending that week), and the status of the Staff Salary Equity Study (the consultant was still analyzing findings).

On July 25, 2015, the above met again, and discussed our meeting with the UVM Foundation staff around the Comprehensive Campaign where we provided information on the perspective of staff, and how staff will be involved and reached during the Campaign. We discussed Staff Council’s work on a Vision Statement in the coming year. We discussed the status of the Staff Council Outreach Report and whether there would be a formal response from the President and one is forthcoming. We discussed staff representation on the two Dean Search Committees being formed (committee chairs are being named, and committees will be formed in the next six weeks; staff will be chosen by the Provost based on the names forwarded by Staff Council).

STAFF COUNCIL MEETING WITH UVM FOUNDATION

On Tuesday, July 14, Amy Gilman, Johanna Brabham and I met with leaders from the UVM Foundation - Rich Bundy, President and CEO, Mark Dorgan, Vice President for Development and Campaign Director, and Rick Green, Executive Director of Communications to discuss staff involvement in the UVM Comprehensive Campaign. Rich and his group described the plans for public launch of the campaign in October, and the work they are doing to reach our newest alumni, who need to be reached differently than alumni in the past. We gave the group information on staff’s impact on student success, and ideas on ways to include staff and encourage their involvement in the campaign through volunteer opportunities and additional outreach and communication that highlights the campaign.
STAFF COUNCIL OUTREACH TO STAFF

On June 15, 2015, Jeff, Johanna and I, met with Gary Derr, Vice President for Executive Operations and Wanda Heading-Grant, Vice President for Human Resources, Diversity and Multicultural Affairs to discuss the objectives that emerged through our outreach efforts and were presented in our Staff Council Outreach Report. Through this discussion we identified key areas of advocacy, learned about work and initiatives already underway, and determined who Staff Council should partner or reach out to on each objective. This was a robust discussion about initiatives already in the works, communication needs, and what steps would be needed and who should be involved to make progress. We were able to work through the objectives for Salary Equity, Benefits, and Professional Development/Career Path. We are meeting again on August 17 to discuss the remaining two common themes of Inclusive Decision Making and Institutional Integrity and Respect.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Berteau, Staff Council President