

## **Staff Council Officer's Report**

**August 2025**

### **SC LEADERSHIP WITH CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT**

On August 19, 2025, Jennifer, Samantha and Alan met with Johnathan D'Amore, Chief of Staff to the President. Items discussed included:

- President Tromp installation process and schedule was discussed. Jennifer, as SC President will preside as part of the platform group. The events overlap a bit with the UVM Weekend, but it is not part of that weekend. The public part of the installation will be 9/30 at Ira Allen Chapel and immediately followed by a reception on the Watermen Green. All are encouraged to attend.
- The staff volunteerism proposal was discussed. With the Staff Council proposal currently on hold, Jennifer was hoping to discuss the day of service/volunteerism idea with Dr. Tromp at their next meeting. Jonathan was encouraging to do so. There may be some hurdles that Wendy Koenig, Director of Government Relations, may help navigate.
- Jonathan was asked about senior leadership speakers at the November Staff Council retreat. Jonathan was again encouraging in that any and all senior leaders are open to meeting with and speaking with Staff Council, there should be no hesitation in asking. President Tromp, however, is not available on 11/5. (President Tromp is penciled in to speak at the 11/4 Full Staff Council meeting)
- President Tromp is in the process of "Strategic Plan in Process" development by the end of the year. This will entail a group of campus individuals, meeting regularly and working quickly to do so. Jonathan asked to have a person from Staff Council on that team. Jennifer and Samantha will have this on the next Executive Board meeting agenda (8/25).

### **SC LEADERSHIP WITH STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION LEADERHSIP**

On August 21, 2025, Jennifer, Samantha and Alan met with Alessandro Bertoni, Interim Chief Communications & Marketing Officer. Items discussed included:

- Follow up on the "Staff Tile" idea for MyUVM. There is a meeting coming up in a few weeks to discuss MyUVM, Alex will bring it up there.
- That MyUVM meeting is to discuss the current portal as well as the possibility of moving to a different platform that allows more flexibility. Any such change would be years down the road.

- Alex discussed an upcoming Web Site governance project as well as an Email Newsletter platform standardization initiative

## **SC LEADERSHIP WITH HUMAN RESOURCES**

On August 18, 2025, Jennifer, Samantha and Alan met with Chris Lehman (CHRO) and Liv Townsend, (Retiree & Engagement Coordinator). Items discussed included:

- Benefit Plan proposal in advance of open enrollment set to be discussed with President Tromp and the new CFO, Alicia Estey, for final approval. Governance groups and UBAC will be informed shortly after.
- No plans to eliminate any plan options. There may be some very small tweaks in order to continue sustainability and to modernize the options.
- Open Enrollment will be active again this year. The date is 9/5 to have all options in place.
- ETS performed a 2<sup>nd</sup> level review of WTW security on the dependent audit. This review found no issues. When WTW is complete with their work, all data will be sent to UVM HR for archiving and be removed from all WTW systems. HR will have an ongoing review process once WTW is complete.
- SC leadership along with Monika Donlevy will be meeting with UVMCares leadership as well as Wellness leadership to discuss any possible collaborations on the program.
- Samantha spoke to the conversation that took place in the Full Staff Council meeting regarding Affinity Groups, the prime focus being what does UVM Recognition of an Affinity group do for the group. There are benefits and Liv may put together talking points for Staff Council. There may be a pause on Affinity Groups related to protected classes temporarily per UVM General Counsel office.
- Staff Appreciation website to go live at the end of August. Communication has gone out to leadership across campus that it is encouraged and ok to close their offices to allow staff to attend the appreciation BBQ

## **Upcoming Leadership Meetings**

- UVM President, Dr. Tromp, 8/27/25
- Chief of Staff to the President, Jonathan D'Amore, 9/15/25
- HR Leadership, TBD
- Strategic Communications Leadership, 10/6/25