

Staff Council Officer's Report

April 2026

SC LEADERSHIP WITH STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS LEADERSHIP

On April 1, 2026, Jennifer, Samantha and Alan met with Alessandro Bertoni, Interim Chief Communications & Marketing Officer. Items discussed included:

- Best method to elevate projects/program/ideas is to email stratcomm@uvm.edu group inbox for filtering
- EMMA project needs a governance group to finalize usage. The “sticking” point may be roles within EMMA and who gets what access based on need since there are a limited number of licenses
- Communications on the Strategic Plan are done via the President’s Office or Kate Shephard. Website is regularly updated. Strat Comm may elevate issues as appropriate
- RFP is out to source a group for UVM level brand marketing. It closes in early April. First step will be marketing research which will build on the in-house research already done a few years ago.
- A question was asked on best practices for getting info out quickly rather than a few sentences half mentioned in an email. This may be more of an individual unit/division/college question. UVM as a whole has an emergency operation group that activates as needed.
- Alessandro asked at what point is there too much communication?
- **Next meeting 5/7/26**

SC LEADERSHIP WITH HUMAN RESOURCE LEADERSHIP

On April 20, 2026, Jennifer, Samantha, and Alan met with Lindsey Melo, Interim CHRO. Items discussed included:

- Performance review process
 - Jennifer and Samantha offered some of their personal feedback and ideas
 - Lindsey commits to seeking additional feedback from the larger UVM community and will share that process with Jennifer and Samantha
- Reviewed the communication matrix. Jennifer answered questions regarding it’s genesis and roll out plan to senior leadership
- Lindsey volunteered the CHRO search process continues but may be coming to a conclusion in the very near future

- Discussion on sharing the CBB Survey results with HR
- Samantha asked about the onboarding survey updates. Lindsey had nothing to share as yet due to schedules
- **Next meeting 5/18/26**

SC LEADERSHIP WITH CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT

On April 21, 2026, Jennifer, Samantha and Alan met with Jonathan D'Amore, Chief of Staff to the President. Items discussed included:

- Reviewed the Communication Matrix final version. Samantha reinforced how much better communication with senior leaders seems to be even prior to the introduction of the matrix. The plan will be to discuss with each senior leader as those meetings occur over the next few weeks.
- Discussion on Staff Council's 55th Anniversary, ways to recognize the milestone compared to prior milestone recognitions
- Jennifer gave an update on the OCG Program (The Staff Council President Chairs the OCG review committee) Feedback has been received from DOIE. Will continue meetings with Michelle Davis on logistics. Applications will be translated into several languages. Applications planned to be open in a few weeks. Celebratory event set for 9/24/26
- Jonathan discussed Dr. Tromp's Virtual Campus update on 4/29. This will be a normal, recurring event and is not in response to any concerns or issues but to offer a UVM update. Questions can be submitted via the form sent by the President's Office.
- Small, temporary changes to this year's commencement recognitions and speakers. Jonathan encouraged volunteer sign up for commencement, noting it's not really voluntary since folks will be paid for working the event.
- **Next meeting 5/19/26**

Upcoming Leadership Meetings

- UVM President, Dr. Tromp, 5/12/26
- CFO, Alicia Estey, 5/21/26