

May 2019-April 2020 UND Staff Senate Officers

President – Jeremy Malheim, College of Engineering & Mines (May 2019-June 2019), Whitney Maine, International Center (June 2019-May 2020)

Vice President/President Elect – Whitney Maine, International Center (May 2019-June 2019), Megan Wasylow, VP Student Affairs & Diversity (July 2019-May 2020)

Secretary – Paula Cox, Honors Program

Treasurer – Devona Janousek, Human Nutrition Research Center

Membership Officer – Melissa Casanova, Student Finance

Historian – Daniel Boese, University IT

Past President – Tyler Clauson, Human Resources & Payroll

Members at Large – Jill Schroeder, SEECs; Chris Dingle, Housing, Peggy Schulz, Mailing Services

Ex-Officio – Peggy Varberg, Human Resources/Payroll

UND Staff Senate Committees

Constitution, Bylaws and Elections Committee

Tyler Clauson, Chair

2019-2020 Constitution, Bylaws & Elections Committee oversaw the following:

- Committee brought names to the full senate throughout the year to fill vacancies.
- In April/May 2020, the nomination and election process for Staff Senators was again held online this year. Qualtrics was used for the ballot that was sent out through an email to all eligible staff with a follow up reminder. Nine new and returning Senators were elected.

Since Whitney Maine departed UND, Tyler Clauson, HR & Payroll, will chair the Constitution, Bylaws and Elections Committee for 2020-2021.

Community Relations Committee

Kari Holter & June Novacek, Co-Chairs

During 2019-2020, Community Relations Committee oversaw the following:

Denim Spirit Day

- In 2019, the Community Relations Committee distributed \$10,270.13 to 11 local regular Denim Spirit Day charities and 12 Special Denim Spirit Day charities.
- Denim Spirit Days are held every Friday, with the first Friday of every month as a Special Denim Spirit Day.
- Payroll deduction option for staff to contribute to Denim Spirit Days has been popular and continues to grow.
- The Denim Day Committee reviewed applications and selected 7 nonprofit community agencies to receive regular Denim Day funding in 2020.
- The Denim Day Committee reviewed applications and selected 11 nonprofit community agencies to receive Special Denim Day funding in 2020.

- The Community Relations Committee provides a link under the UND and the Staff Senate website, with information and applications for Denim Spirit Day and Special Denim Spirit Day funding, as well as the Payroll Deduction form.

Tubs of Love

- The Community Relations Committee also spearheaded the Tubs of Love campaign with over 17 collection sites across campus accepting material & food donations for Northlands Rescue Mission. In January 2020, we donated 15 bags of clothes and a whole pallet of food.

Kari Holter, Student Involvement & Parent Pgm, and June Novacek, EERC, will co-chair the Community Relations Committee for 2020-2021.

Engagement Committee

Melissa Casanova and Laura Vatnsdal, Co-Chairs

During 2019-2020, Staff Engagement Committee oversaw the following:

Staff Takeovers

- Staff Engagement Committee continued to host Takeover events in 2019-2020. Takeovers allow our staff to meet and mingle outside of the work setting to promote teambuilding and cooperation between departments. We like to encourage participation and reward our attendees with door prizes; however, we moved away from fundraising as bringing staff together outside of work hours is our main goal. Our first event of the Senate Year was at Rhombus Rooftop on Aug. 12, 2019. Inclement weather held attendance to just under 25. Our next event was Sept. 24. We hosted yoga followed by a social at Crooked Pint. We had just under 10 attendees for yoga and for the social. We switched gears and found an activity more “engaging” than a social. Staff Engagement Committee hosted Takeover Bingo at Dreamer’s Lounge on Nov 19. This was a huge success with well over 60 attendees. Our last event was bowling at Red Ray Lanes. This event was also a success with over 60 attendees and a lot of positive feedback from staff.

Emily Dougherty, Study Abroad Advisor, and Paula Cox, Honors Program, will co-chair the Engagement Committee for 2020-2021.

Legislative Committee

Tyler O’Hara, Chair

- Staff Legislative Affairs - Given that the 2019-20 was not a legislative year, the Legislative Committee did not discuss legislation pending in Bismarck.
- Instead the Committee met semi-monthly (before the quarantine) to strategize future efforts and develop categories of focus for FY 2020-21: Legislative Affairs at the state level, broader NDUS issues specific to higher ed in North Dakota, and UND-specific matters we could address (resolutions of support, etc.).
- Several issues were discussed throughout the year at the committee level, including bringing forward a resolution in support of universal healthcare to the Senate for consideration (this was brought to the Staff Senate Executive Committee, but it was not passed to bring forward); discussion of potentially partnering with area colleges on issues like paid family leave and flexible scheduling; and discussion of expanding tuition discounting for all NDUS employees to all NDUS schools. Committee was in process of researching these issues in more detail when COVID-19 hit.

Brian Schill, SMHS, and Kyle Markwardt, Title IX Office, will chair Legislative Committee for 2020-2021.

Public Relations Committee

Christina Mead, Chair

The 2019-2020 PR Committee:

- Continued the monthly Staff Senate newsletter *Staff Happens*.
- Regularly posted “Did You Know?” facts and other relevant information on the Staff Senate Facebook page.
- Continued our “Caughts” of staff and promoted on the Staff Senate Facebook page.
- Partnered with UND WorkWell on State Employee Recognition Week Sept. 9-13, 2019.
- Reviewed and approved Staff Senate flyers throughout the year.

Brenda Haugen, Center for Rural Health, and Christina Mead, UIT, will co-chair the Public Relations Committee for 2020-2021.

Staff and Professional Development Committee

Jade Gourneau, Chair

Seeds for Staff Success:

- The committee is responsible for managing the “Seeds for Staff Success” grant program. This is a program that allows UND Staff members to apply for a grant that can assist them with personal and/or professional development.

The following table summarizes the awards given during the FY20:

Award Period	Funds Requested	Funds Awarded	Funds Paid Out
Summer 2019	\$3500	\$3500	\$1,000.00*
Fall 2019	\$4861.07	\$4861.07	\$3887.79
Spring 2020	\$2535.25	\$2535.25	\$1307.68
Summer 2020	\$686.75	\$686.75	\$186.75**

*\$2,056.52 in Summer 2019 awards were paid out in FY19

**\$360.38 in Summer 2020 awards were paid out in FY21

Leadership series:

We continued with the Leadership series after giving it a test run last year.

- January 2020 - Cassie Gerhardt, Associate Dean of Students, “What is leadership to you?”
- February 2020 - (postponed due to weather) – Denny Elbert, former dean of CoBPA, “Leadership Style Inventory.”
- March 2020 - Kyle “Bubba” Schweigert, Head coach UND Football, “Leadership & Team Building.”
- April 2020 (canceled due to COVID 19) - Major Mike Humble, US Army, “Servant Leadership” and “Finding Success in Failure.
- May 2020 (rescheduled from February, Canceled due to COVID 19) - Denny Elbert, former dean of COBPA, “Leadership Style Inventory.”

- June 2020 (canceled due to COVID 19) - Barry Brode, President of Barry Brode Communications Consulting, LLC.

Campus Speaker:

- We planned to have a campus wide speaker come in Spring 2020. Barry Brode, President of Barry Brode Communications Consulting, LLC, was to speak on campus on March 19, 2020. His presentation was titled Optimism 101. This event ended up getting Postponed due to COVID 19. We have not yet set a rescheduled date.

Zauna Synnott, Public Health, will chair the Staff Development Committee for 2020-2021.

Staff Recognition Committee

Andria Spaeth & Jennifer Lunde, Staff Recognition Co-Chairs

During 2019-2020, Staff Recognition Committee oversaw the following:

USHINE Award

- This is the 11th year of what we consider a VERY successful program to recognize extraordinary UND employees!
- Staff nominate their co-worker through the Staff Senate webpage when they “catch” someone going above and beyond! The Staff Recognition Committee votes using a three-point system due to an average of over 10 nominees a month. This point system is in its second year. The unaware UND Staff UShine winner is presented a certificate and \$50 during a “special department meeting” or other gathering (we had three Zoom celebrations this year due to remote working and COVID 19). The 2019-2020 monthly UShine recipients were:
 1. May: Tulasha Dhungana – Facilities
 2. June: Frank Swiontek – UND Online/Academic Affairs
 3. July: Heidi Gerszewski – Human Resources
 4. August: Jason Marsh – Facilities
 5. Sept: Marjorie Evers – One Stop Student Services
 6. Oct: Joanne Barstad – Payroll
 7. Nov: Amy Senger – International Center
 8. Dec: Kimberly Myrum – Chemistry
 9. Jan: Paul Bruggeman – Supply
 10. Feb: Kevin Stafford – Facilities
 11. Mar: Shelly Pecka – Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities
 12. Apr: Troy Noeldner – Housing
- From the list above, the Annual UShine Award is usually presented during the Staff Recognition Ceremony in May. The annual recipient receives a certificate and \$250. The annual award for 2020 was presented to Kevin Stafford from Facilities via Zoom on May 1, 2020.

State Employee Recognition Week and Spring Fling

- UND employees look forward to these events every year, and this year was bigger and better than ever! Both events were very well attended with over 450 employees at the State Employee Recognition luncheon and pie social. There were 76 night-time staff who attended the breakfast in the fall. Unfortunately, Spring Fling was cancelled due to COVID 19.

- Because these two events are very time-consuming with a lot of moving parts, an event timeline was created to assist future chairs with the organization of the three State Employee Recognition Week events and two Spring Fling events. In order for these events to be successful, strong commitment from many individuals is needed.
- The Fall 2019 SERW luncheon was held at the Wellness Center and the Dessert Social was held at Carnegie Hall. Both locations worked fantastic and we had great reviews from those that attended!
- The Spring 2020 Spring Fling event was canceled; however, we plan to recognize all the UShine winners at the Fall 2020 SERW Luncheon, also to be held at the Wellness Center.

Andria Spaeth, Work Well, and Jennifer Lunde, College of Engr & Mines, will continue as co-chairs for the 2020-2021 year.

AD-HOC Committees

Parades, Christina Mead, Coordinator

Staff Senate participated in the 2019 Potato Bowl parade, passing out potato chips donated by Old Dutch and candy donated by UND staff. Homecoming Parade was canceled due to weather.

31 Days of Glory, Jill Schroeder, Coordinator

The annual 31 Days of Glory Raffle was held in December 2018. Six-hundred tickets were sold for \$20 each. Winners were selected daily in the month of December. Monday through Friday winners received \$100, Saturday winners received \$250, and Sunday winners received \$500. Proceeds totaled \$6,550 and will fund the Seeds for Staff Success Program. The thought of holding a second 31 Days of Glory event in June was discussed again this year, but not implemented. Public Relations took on this task and advised that a Member at Large takes it on in the future.

In 2019-2020, Staff Senate was also involved in the following University committees:

- Building/Facility Access Committee
- Parking & Transportation Advisory Committee
- The President's Cabinet
- Senate Budget Committee
- Senate Legislative Affairs Committee
- Sexual Violence Prevention Committee
- Support Unit Allocation Committee
- Technology Standards Committee
- Technopalooza Committee
- University Bookstore Advisory Committee
- University Senate
- University Senate Budget Committee
- University Senate Conflict of Interest Committee
- University Senate Executive Committee

North Dakota State Staff Senate (ND SSS) - UND is active with the ND SSS and sends our Staff Senate President, Vice-President, and Past President to ND SSS meetings. Currently, meetings are

held monthly, with one face-to-face meeting held in June, 2019. The ND SSS has proven invaluable as a forum for all North Dakota higher education institutions to share ideas and advocate for common concerns.

May 2020-April 2021 UND Staff Senate Officers and Committee Chairs

President – Megan Wasylow, VP for Student Affairs & Diversity

Vice President/President Elect – Brian Schill, SMHS Alumni & Community Relations

Secretary – Paula Cox, Honors Program

Treasurer – Devona Janousek, Human Nutrition Research Center

Membership Officer – Melissa Casanova, Student Finance

Historian – Daniel Boese, University IT

Past President – Tyler Clauson, Human Resources & Payroll

Members at Large – Chris Dingle, Housing, Peggy Schulz, Mailing Services, Jessica Cadreau (May 2020-July 2020); Cindy Murphy, Dining Support Services (August 2020-May 2020)

Ex-Officio – Peggy Varberg, Human Resources/Payroll

Committee Chairs:

Community Relations – Kari Holter, Student Involvement; June Novacek, EERC

Constitution, Bylaws, & Elections – Tyler Clauson, Human Resources & Payroll

Engagement – Emily Dougherty, International Center; Paula Cox, Honors Program

Legislative – Brian Schill, School of Medicine & Health Sciences; Kyle Markwardt, Equal Opportunity and Title IX

Public Relations – Brenda Haugen, Center for Rural Health, Christina Mead, University IT

Staff & Professional Development – Zauna Synnott, Public Health

Staff Recognition – Jennifer Lunde, College of Engineering & Mines (May-July 2020); Andria Spaeth, Work Well