COMMUNITY RELATIONS
Award Winning

On October 18, June Novacek and Brenda Halle attended the Valley Senior Living Fall Awards Banquet, where the UND Staff Senate was recognized for our contributions to their facility, and have now earned the Gold Leaf Award on their “Tree of Life.”

Jeans Give Back

Did you know you can request your request Jeans Give Back Donation be paid through payroll deduction? Use the Jeans Give Back Deduction Form.

The first Friday of the month is designated for a Special Non-Profit Charity which the Staff Senate Community Relations Committee chooses from applicants. For this participation, it’s asked for Staff to donate $1 per week (or more!) which will go towards local non-profit organizations in the Grand Forks Community.

Our committee collected and reviewed many applications in November/December for “Jeans Give Back.” We are delighted to announce that, because of the charitable monthly donations from UND employees, we will be able to help 17 different organizations with monetary donations in 2023!

More information can be found at the Staff Senate Jeans Give Back page.
**Tubs of Love**

Our “Tubs of Love” campaign ran from December 19, 2022, through January 6, 2023. United Way was chosen from applications submitted to be the recipient of this year’s donations. We had tubs across campus, in 17 different buildings, and because of the generous giving spirit of UND employees, we were able to load back of three vehicles with all the donations we received. An anonymous donor also gave $200 cash.

Thank you to everyone who helped via donations. We would like to extend a special thank you to all the Jeans Give Back and Tubs of Love coordinators across campus for your time and assistance.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Seeds for Staff Success Applications Open**

UND benefited staff members may apply for a maximum grant of up to $500 in one calendar year. Funds must be used for workshops, training, and/or classes that enhance one’s education or career at the University of North Dakota.

If you missed the last deadline of 12/15/22, the next deadline and review will be on March 15, 2023, for funds that can be used between March 15 and May 15.

[Seeds for Staff Success Application](#)

**LEGISLATIVE**

**Legislative Biennium 2023-2025**

The 68th North Dakota Legislative Assembly started in January 2023. UND has created a site for you to review official talking points and to track various bills throughout this legislative session. There are a variety of bills that may impact your professional and personal lives. You can stay up to date on session activity through legis.nd.gov. All sessions and committee hearings are being live streamed via the video page.

You are entitled (and encouraged) to engage with your state legislators however you see fit as North Dakota citizens. Engagement must be pursued on personal time and personal
technology (e.g., don’t contact legislators to support or denounce a specific bill using your
UND email or laptop during workday hours). Additionally, you must clarify your advocacy as
"personal" and that it is not on behalf of the institution for which you work.

Please note, everything is possibly subject to an open records request by the news media:
texts, private emails, and social media posts. But don’t let that dissuade you from offering
your informed views on proposals/policies/bills. The more engaged we all are, the better.

CONSTITUTIONS, BYLAWS & ELECTIONS

Spring Elections

Elections for open staff senate positions will be held in the late spring. Staff Senate is
comprised of elected representatives from each salary band, whose work involves advising
the president, bringing awareness to professional development opportunities, and providing
open meetings to express, propose, represent, investigate, and debate issues. Senators
have the opportunity to make a substantial impact in making specific recommendations for
changes. The Staff Senate has been involved in numerous professional development
initiatives and proposals.

All full-time or part-time benefited employees who are off probation at the time of nomination
are eligible to be nominated as a senator. Learn more.

MISSION & VISION

Mission

To advocate for staff by supporting engagement, development, and recognition through
shared governance and collaboration.

Vision:

To be the roots for all UND staff.

SUGGESTION BOX

Staff Senate welcomes questions and ideas. Please click on the Suggestion Box to submit a
suggestion or to read the answers to previous questions!