University of Montana Staff Senate facilitates communication, cooperation, and engagement between the administration and staff of the University of Montana. Staff Senate promotes and works to improve the working conditions and the professional welfare of UM’s staff— the “Heart of the Grizzly.”

President: Jennifer Zellmer-Cuaresma
President-elect: Maria Mangold
Secretary: Andrea Armstrong
Finance Officer: Gloria Phillip

30 Senators representing over 900 classified staff

Scholarships

3 Staff Senate Scholarships were presented to the dependents of University of Montana classified staff for the 2017-2018 academic year. The scholarships and gifts were valued over $3000.

Outreach to Staff

52 Meetings of the “Finding Your Voice @UM” Toastmasters Club.
18 Kudos awarded to classified staff members in recognition of their outstanding work.
11 Monthly presentations at new employee orientations.
5 Social events sponsored included Gilkey Building Tour, “Stories and Stars” with Planetarium Show, Biking Workshop, Holiday Caroling, Family Ice Skating.
5 Videotaped promotions for Can the Bobcats campaign. Helped raise $139,606 and 177,581 lbs. for the Missoula Food Bank.
2 Staff Appreciation Nights held in partnership with Grizzly Athletics at Griz and Lady Griz basketball games.
1 Creating a Culture of Teamwork panel presentation
+ “Grizzly Heartbeat” online news updates on Staff Senate website, regular email communications, and daily Facebook posts.
MUSSA
(Montana University System Staff Association)

- Conducted statewide Staff Satisfaction Survey receiving over 900 responses
- Presented initial Survey data to Board of Regents emphasizing staff's satisfaction with teamwork within their departments, their schedule flexibility, opportunities for training, benefits and their understanding the expectations for their position; dissatisfaction was emphasized in the areas of wages and opportunities for advancement.

Internal Organization

- Monthly **Staff Senate meetings** are an opportunity to hear guest speakers, share committee reports, and discuss resolutions and concerns.
- Staff Senate committees meet to plan and do the work of the Senate: **Executives, Bylaws and Resolutions, Scholarships, Professional Development**, and **Communications & Visibility**.
- The Staff Senate President and Vice-President attend monthly **Shared Governance** meetings with Faculty Senate and ASUM officers.
- Staff Senate Executive Officers meet monthly with the University of Montana **President’s Cabinet**.
- The **Staff Senate President** maintains appointed seat on the University of Montana President’s Cabinet.

Guest Presenters

Staff Senate meets on the second Wednesday of each month. Meetings are open to the public. Guest presenters keep Senators up-to-date on current University issues. Among the meeting guests this year—

- **Clayton Christian**, Update on Legislative Session and Presidential search
- **Royce Engstrom**, Appreciation of staff and Staff Senate
- **Judy Fredenberg**, Research Administration Certificate
- **Garrett Morrill**, Proposing resolution supporting new Free Speech Policy
- **Nathan Lindsay**, Accreditation
- **Jed Liston**, Above and Beyond Award
- **Gordy Pace and Kelly Webster**, Strategic Planning Committee
- **Dawn Ressel**, Data Governance and Data Structure
- **Janet Sedgley**, Accessibility
- **Sheila Stearns**, Introduction
- **Vicki Watson**, Proposing resolution supporting March for Science
- **President’s Cabinet Q&A**: Beverly Edmond, Lucy France, Sam Forstag, Kent Haslam, Mike Reid, Matt Riley, Mario Schulzke, Scott Whittenburg

Outstanding Staff Awards

- **Outstanding Service to the Campus**—Mona Weer, Research and Sponsored Programs
- **Outstanding Service to Students**—Karen Kaley, Davidson Honors College
- **Excellence in Job Performance**—Jaylene Naylor, Physics and Astronomy
- **Campus Interaction and Meritorious Job Performance**—Andi Armstrong, Campus Recreation

Resolutions Passed

SB 1—2016/17—Appoint Staff Representatives to Forward 125 Task Force
SB 2—2016/17—Support March for Science
SB 3—2016/17—Support for Training & Development Programming