The Staff Senate encourages any staff members to attend Staff Senate meetings to engage in Senate work on behalf of classified staff. Staff Senate held its annual retreat in July, established goals and a year-long time-line. Please contact any Senator (listed in the side bar of this page) if you have questions of the Senate or to voice any concerns. Your voice counts, and we want to hear more from you!

**Ask the Expert!**

“**Why is my position called ‘classified staff?’**”

Response from Hannah Singleton, Compensation Analyst, Human Resources:

“Classified Staff are defined as employees who have non-academic positions that have a title and rate of pay determined in accordance with the Montana University System Staff Compensation Plan. The Compensation Office in Human Resource Services receives and reviews Role Descriptions (the University’s name for job or position descriptions) in order to determine position types based on the combination of duties and responsibilities and the knowledge, skills and abilities required to meet the expectations of the position. Classified Staff may or may not be eligible for overtime or union membership.”

Do you have a question you’d like answered? Something you’ve always wondered about regarding working at the University of Montana? E-mail your question to staffsenate@umontana.edu. Your question may be chosen for our next “Ask the Expert” column!
Staff Senate Scholarships

Each year the Staff Senate offers multiple scholarships for the children of classified staff of The University of Montana - Missoula. Besides special fundraisers, the Staff Senate relies on donations from the campus community to fund these scholarships. This is an opportunity for anyone to give in order to benefit fellow UM employees and their families.

These scholarships are open to incoming freshmen, continuing education students, graduate students, and transfer students who are attending The University of Montana. Awards are based on scholastic ability, campus and community involvement, and financial need. Contributions to the scholarships can be made in any of the following ways:

- Cash or check made out to Staff Senate
- Payroll deduction
- Contributions as a memorial for a loved one or friend
- Donations from departments

If you wish to contribute to the Staff Senate Scholarship Fund via payroll deduction, please fill out the Payroll Deduction Form on the Staff Senate website, and send it to Human Resources. Contributions via check can be sent to the Staff Senate, Building 32, Room 135F, The University of Montana - Missoula, Missoula, MT 59812. For questions regarding the Scholarship program, please contact the Staff Senate office at (406)243-5422.

KUDOS Awards

Ed Scott, Mail Clerk/Carrier for Campus Mail Services, and Kathy Reeves, Administrative Associate – Admissions/Enrollment Services, have both been recognized by fellow employees for their outstanding work! Ed was nominated by Becky Krantz (School of Law) who had this to say about him, “Every encounter I have with Ed is a positive one. Even when I am rushing to get something in the mail at the last moment, he is patient and willing to help.”

Maria Mangold (English Department) nominated Kathy and said this, “She’s consistently organized and conscientious. She goes out of her way to make sure prospective students’ and parents’ needs and requests are met!”

Both KUDOS awards winners were presented with a bag of prizes donated by The Bookstore. Congratulations, Ed and Kathy!

If you’d like to nominate a UM classified staff member for a KUDOS award, please fill out the nomination form on the Staff Senate website: www.umt.edu/staffsenate/kudos

HRS Partners with Campus Rec to Provide Wellness Presentations

With MUS Wellness consolidated on a state level, the program has less of a presence on campus now. Staff at Campus Recreation noticed that the stress reduction and yoga classes went away with this change and decided they’d like to offer that kind of service to the campus community using their resources to share tips for living a healthy lifestyle.

Last April, Campus Recreation sent a survey to 2,200 staff and faculty to determine if there was interest in wellness presentations. The survey had a response rate of 20 percent, and 80 percent of those who filled it out expressed support, affirming the desire for health and fitness programming over the lunch hour on campus.

Partnering with Human Resource Services, and splitting the cost of staff time, materials, and marketing, Campus Recreation will offer free presentations on health and fitness to staff and faculty starting in mid-September. Experts from Campus Recreation will come to make the presentation to your department. The program will run during 13 weeks of the semester, and instructors will offer up to four presentations per week. Watch for announcements about this exciting new program on the Campus Recreation website, brochures, flyers, and an official email announcement from HRS.
Family Movie Night Was a Hit

Staff Senate and the University Center offered a free movie night to classified staff and their families on Friday, June 15. Over 200 staff members and their guests poured into the UC to watch The Lorax, the fun Pixar film based on the Dr. Seuss book of the same title.

Monte greeted children outside the theater with hugs and his usual antics, performing handstands and tumbling for the crowd. In addition, those in attendance received complimentary Staff Senate drink cups and concessions, including soda and popcorn. One moviegoer sent an email to Staff Senate saying, “Thank you, Staff Senate! My wife and I went to the show just to ‘get out.’ It’s been 5 years since we’ve done a movie together!” Another staff member commented via email, “Loved the atmosphere of the kids running around! Loved getting the free cup! Loved Monte’s handstands!”

The first movie event was such a hit that another movie night hosted by Staff Senate and the UC is already in the works! This date night movie is slated for Saturday, January 26. Staff Senate will announce more details this fall.

Staff Senate Homecoming Raffle

What are two things that you love about Missoula? Football and food? We’ve got you covered! Staff Senate’s Fundraising Committee is pleased to announce its fall raffle with the theme “Taste of Missoula” promoting two of Missoulians’ favorite activities: eating and watching the Griz.

The Grand Prize is a Griz Package featuring Griz Homecoming game tickets, Griz gear, a concessions gift certificate, and a $50 gift certificate to Finn & Porter. Other prizes include local restaurant gift certificates, dining coupons, and entrée discounts/two-for-one food deals. With several levels of prizes, the chances of winning are great indeed!

Raffle tickets will be available for purchase starting September 4 in the UC atrium and Food Court and from Staff Senators in many departments. Please look for the “Heart of the Grizzly” sign at a table in the UC during lunchtime hours. Tickets will be sold for $1 each or six for $5. Winners will be drawn on Friday, September 14. (Mark your calendars – the Homecoming game is Saturday, September 22.)

Proceeds from the raffle will fund Staff Senate’s ambitious goals for the 2012-13 academic year which include hosting more (free!) staff socials and movie nights, providing scholarships for staff members’ families, and recognizing staff achievements through annual awards and our ongoing KUDOS award program. For more information, contact Maria Mangold, Fundraising Committee Chairperson, at 406.243.6976 or maria.mangold@umontana.edu.

Staff T-shirts

Email judy.wellert@mso.umt.edu if you’d like to purchase a University of Montana – STAFF Heart of the Grizzly T-shirt. The cost is only $10 per shirt! Men’s and women’s styles are available, but only in sizes on hand. No more special orders.
Mountain Line Bus Route Changes

The first week of school is always buzzing with excitement as students come back to campus, and we want to ensure that you are aware of the bus route changes so coming to campus will be a pleasant and stress-free experience. The Mountain Line bus system is making some changes to their routes effective August 27.

The biggest change is an all-day service every fifteen minutes on Route 1 which runs between the University, downtown, and Southgate Mall. Route 8, running between the University and Fort Missoula, will also increase its frequency to run every 30 minutes. There will be reduced services on Routes 3 (Northside area), 5 (Rattlesnake area), and 9 (Downtown to Fort Missoula/Community Medical Center). Lastly, Route 10 (Russell and Broadway to Smurfit Stone) has been eliminated.

The new schedules and route map are available at [www.mountainline.com](http://www.mountainline.com). If you are a smartphone user, you can use their “BusTracker” app to see when the next bus will be available at a stop. Printable route maps and schedules are also available online. Remember, Griz Card holders ride the bus for FREE!

Homecoming Front Desk Decorating Contest

The Homecoming UM Department Front Desk Decorating Contest is a great way to show UM pride during one of the most spirit-filled weeks on campus. Get creative! Decorate the front desk of your UM department with your take on the 2012 Homecoming theme: “We are Montana.” Departments must register by calling 243-5211 or stopping by the UM Alumni Relations Office in Brantly Hall prior to September 19. All participating departments will receive a Griz décor bag full of goodies to help get started. Judging will take place on September 19. The Grand Prize-winning department will receive $50, with $25 going to four runners-up.

Let Your Voice Be Heard!

The Staff Senate received excellent feedback from UM staff last fall when staff were asked to complete a survey about their view of Staff Senate and how Staff Senate can better serve UM staff. There will be another survey in mid-October 2012. This survey will focus on more sensitive and personal issues: wages, employment and income outside of the University, job satisfaction, etc.

Staff Senate hopes to gain some solid data to bring to President Engstrom and upcoming Board of Regents meetings. We also want to know what kinds of professional development opportunities you are interested in attending and what types of events you would like to see Staff Senate sponsor. We had a great response rate to our last survey, and we hope to get an even better rate for this one. We want to make sure everyone’s voice is heard!

Facebook, Anyone?

Do you have a Facebook account? If you do, Staff Senate has a page you will like: [www.facebook.com/universityofmontanastaffsenate](http://www.facebook.com/universityofmontanastaffsenate). Please log in to your account and “like” Staff Senate on Facebook! It’s another easy way to learn the news of classified staff on campus, and you might win a prize in the Staff Senate Facebook contests!