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Staff Council SUN

A PERIODIC NEWSLETTER FROM THE
UTD STAFF COUNCIL

Spring CARE Awardees Announced

The Spring 2007 CARE Award recipients were honored on Wednesday, May 23, 2007, at a ceremony in the McDermott Suite. President Daniel presented the awardees with a Certificate of Appreciation and a desk clock inscribed with their name. The CARE Awards are given twice a year to UTD staff who have performed above-and-beyond in their job or have in some way added to the persona of the University by the community and visitors. Nominations are held twice a year, in the fall and the spring. Nominations are confidential with deadlines on March 31 and October 31. Forms to nominate a staff member are available on the Staff Council web page at www.utdallas.edu/staffcouncil.

The Awardees for Spring 2007 are (from left to right): Donna Lippincott, School of Management; Maria Valencia, Facilities Management; Paula Bratt, Office of Development; Julie Allen, Provost Office; Mary Roffino, Office of Financial Aid; and Abbie Bailey, Behavioral and Brain Sciences.

Julie Allen is the ultimate professional yet she is very personable. She always has a smile. Julie provides a positive image of UTD. She is always welcoming and helpful to any visitor as well as the faculty and staff. She is supportive, helpful, cooperative and well liked and respected by her co-workers. She works tirelessly and is dedicated to those who work with her. Her support and contributions are immeasurable.

One of the reasons **Abbie Bailey** is so successful at what she does, is her positive attitude. Abbie has done a fantastic job with her comprehensive knowledge of the University's policies and procedures. The efficiency with which she completes the necessary tasks is simply amazing due to the volume of requests that come her way. It is her good nature which allows her to interact daily with the people who depend on her.

Paula Bratt has been a constant source of operational efficiencies. She keeps us abreast of technologies, equipment and best practices in Development Office operations. She is always mindful of saving money and making the best possible decisions. Paula's positive and enthusiastic attitude is a constant source of encouragement in an office where the expectations are extremely high and the workload is very heavy.

Donna Lippincott is a kind and gentle lady who makes everyone feel special. She has a remarkable talent for remembering names and other personal information about students that puts everyone at ease and communicates her concern for everyone she talks with. Donna has helped develop procedures in the School of Management Advising Office to enhance their ability to advise students more effectively.



Mary Roffino's willingness to share her knowledge allows the student to be assisted in a very efficient manner. The students that interact with Mary are always treated with the ultimate respect and have personally complimented her on the manner in which she has treated them. Mary is a person that goes the extra mile to make a difference. She is an absolute pleasure to work with. She is an excellent customer service representative.

Maria Valencia is friends with everyone; she has never met a stranger. She always has a smile. Maria takes pride in her work and is very professional. Maria is an extraordinary person who tries to do her best at her job. She brings a smile to the face of others when she walks by, and her outgoing attitude is very motivating.

Peter Walker & Partners Campus Enhancements

Along University Parkway, the main entrance to campus, Peter Walker & Partners are planting a variety of trees, allowing them to “get it right” before moving on to the rest of campus.



In May we experienced a large amount of rain, which delayed the planting of these trees.



A recent photo of the trees. After some fine-tuning, Peter Walker is planning on continuing this pattern all along University Parkway.



A 3D model of what the finished project might look like. This model is available for viewing in McDermott Library.

Districts 2 & 5 Coffee With the President

UTD continues to grow, building by building



On March 22, Districts 2 and 5 had coffee with President Daniel. Attending were Peggy Attari, Zeke Barrera, Daniel Calhoun, Cary Delmark, Sharon Edwards, Don Foltz, Darlene Johnson, and Carrilaine Schneckner.

Here are a few of the topics discussed with President Daniel:

Campus Signage

Dr. Daniel explained that a year ago, the plan was to design new signs, but safety issues and infrastructure first had to be addressed. Because of this, there are not enough available funds to address new signage.

The plan now is to wait for Peter Walker & Partners to present their ideas so that they can design the signage to blend in with the new landscape designs.

Remodeling Campus Restrooms

Dr. Daniel said that there is no comprehensive plan in place at this time to remodel campus restrooms. The plan is to address problems as they arise.

Ombudsman

President Daniel stated that he is in favor of an ombudsman at UTD, and he is aware that the UT System Employee Advisory Council is working on this. He wants Staff Council to keep him updated.

Funding and the Legislature

Dr. Daniel believes that the legislation coming out of this Texas Congressional session will be good for higher education, although it will not cover cost increases. Dr. Daniel said his goal is to “avoid deficits and rebuild reserves.”

Meet-n-Greet

On March 21, 2007, the Staff Council was excited to offer its first ever Meet-N-Greet in the elegant McDermott Suite. Representatives from each district were present to meet and hear any suggestions or concerns of their constituents.

The event coincided with the 10 year anniversary of the staff Council and a historical review by all its chairs including Sandee Goertzen, David Maldonado, and current chair, Chris Dickson was offered. Refreshments and a special anniversary cake were enjoyed by all.

The next Meet-N-Greet will be after the new Staff Council representatives take office this fall so you can meet your new representatives and get to know them better.

Fundraising Success

Staff Council's begonia sale was a great success this spring. Twenty-four flats of beautiful begonias were sold totaling \$432.00.

The profit off the begonias was \$144 which will be added to the Staff Council scholarship fund. Thanks to all of those who purchased begonias. We hope you enjoy them all summer long!

The ink cartridge recycling program continues to be a great source of fundraising dollars. Cartridges were scheduled to be picked up May 2, 2007. The revenue from those cartridges should be in by mid-June.

Please be sure to place all your old cartridges in the Staff Council ink cartridge recycling bins. Every ink cartridge turned in helps a UTD employee, so keep up the good work!

Election Results are In!

The elections for the 2007-2008 Staff Council has been completed. Listed are the new representatives that will take office on September 1, along with those that will be continuing. Congratulations to all the Staff Council representatives.

NEW

District 1

Kristen Blakely
Colter Fleming

District 2

Ed Bennett
Michelle Long
Kathy White

District 3

Darlene Coppage
Lori Jacobsen
Loreen Phillips

District 4

Laurie Brown
Corina Cantua
Gaby Perkowski
Lori Skillestad

District 5

Chris Dickson
Tom Lee

District 6

Robert Hamilton
Douglas Shedd
Tara Riall
Roxanne Minnish

District 7

Lynne Boyer
Irene Marroquin
Rebecca Duncan Murry

CONTINUING

Judith Patterson

Jacob Abraham
Daniel Calhoun
Caroline Crossley

Patsy Aquilera
Brenda Mahar
Paul Oelkrug

Gayle Holt
Tricia Losavio

Patrice Morman
Mary Spradlin

Dina Caplinger
Carolyn Ivey

Jacqueline Long
Remona McLain
Kayety Stringer

At Large Heather Burge

Lifetime Sandee Goertzen

Brought to you by the
Staff Council Communications Committee

Mike Griego, *Chair*
Heather Burge
Carlton Eberhart
Sandee Goertzen

Cassini Nazir
Paul Oelkrug
Kayety Stringer

About the UTD Staff Council

The Staff Council is an advisory body through which eligible staff members can convey information and make recommendations to the President regarding interests and concerns of the university staff. The Staff Council is constituted by the President with the goal of continually improving university operations and the well-being of UTD's employees. The Staff Council addresses matters of general concern to the UTD community and, in particular, to members of the UTD staff and is not intended to supplant existing procedures for addressing individual grievances.