

May 10, 2024  
10:30 AM

# Staff Council Meeting

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**Attendees:** Joy Skinner, Kay Grigsby, Kris Steege, Jamie Hollaway, Sephanie Newsom, Sheila Kittleson

**Not Present:** Dean Cockerham, Beth Sinnwell, Amy Wilson, Adrian Norris, Ryan Callahan, Abbie Raum

## Minutes

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### **Agenda item:** Mental Health Awareness Month

#### **Discussion:**

May is Mental Health Awareness Month, and although it is too late to plan Staff Council activities, we discussed the Counseling Center's plans as well as ways that we could contribute next year.

Everyone is encouraged to wear green on May 16 in support of mental health awareness. The Counseling Center will also hold a tabling event that day from 11:00-1:00 at which people can write "Gratitude Grams" as well as gain information about mental health on campus. Additionally, Coffee with a Counselor is open to anyone on campus to learn more about the Counseling Center and the services they provide. The college is already holding yoga on the lawn throughout the month of May, which fits well with the theme of mental health.

Ideas that Staff Council has for next year included having one of our EAP (Employee Assistance Program) providers come to campus to talk on a mental health topic. Free chair yoga sessions were also brought up as a way for individuals to practice mental and physical health without having to change clothing. Lastly, the idea of partnering with the Wellness Center to hold rotating monthly wellness activities open for faculty and staff was discussed. These activities would also count towards employee's health insurance health program as they could swipe their ID for attendance. These ID swipes are then bulk uploaded to the insurance company to add to each individual's health program. Joy will contact Clay in the Wellness Center and bring his thoughts back in the June meeting.

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### **Agenda item:** Holiday Calendar

#### **Discussion:**

HR sent their 2024 Christmas holiday recommendation to the Senior Leadership Team in April which consisted of asking for December 23-27th off. The Staff Council had initially recommended to her that we have December 24-30 off and asking for a half day on the 31<sup>st</sup>. This would however create equity issues for employees on campus that work non-traditional hours or are required to be on campus. While half days have been given off in the past, it creates such a complication, it has not been done since Interim President Hamm.

The holiday recommendations will be reviewed by the Senior Leadership Team next week.

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### **Agenda item:** Open Discussion

#### **Discussion:**

The Staff Handbook will be reviewed by HR for updates this coming summer. It will be reviewed for legal compliance by an external company, as well as reviewed for content changes. HR will bring proposed changes to the Staff Council for review and additional input. While HR has final say on what is submitted to the Senior Leadership Team, this will be a collaborative process with Staff Council.