



Staff Senate Election Results

During the first week of June, Staff Senate held campus-wide elections for six openings.

The three senators who were re-elected to 2 year terms are:

- Elayne Kuletz (Unclassified, Academic Support)
- Dona Vasas (Classified, Administrative Support)
- Heather Mercer (Unclassified, Administrative Support).

The three new senators who were elected for 2-year terms are:

- Elizabeth Van Ert (Classified, Student Support)
- Christopher Solario (Unclassified, Student Support)
- Jennifer Keen

Senators returning to complete their 2-year terms are:

- Brandon Neisch (Business Office)
- Crystal Ross (Student Health & Counseling)
- Barry McBeth (Physical Plant)
- Sue DeNoyer (Fire Services/ Interdisciplinary Studies))

There are still 2 openings on Staff Senate and the senators for those positions may be appointed by the Staff Senate president, according to the Staff Senate by-laws.

Anyone having specific questions or concerns about the Staff Senate election policies and procedures can find the by-laws on the Staff Senate webpage.

<http://www.wou.edu/staffsenate>

New Welcome Program Introduced

One of the recurring topics of discussion at Staff Senate has been the method by which we welcome and help new WOU staff to acclimate to the university campus and culture. While the Welcome Staff Receptions each term have been successful at meeting a few new staff, they did not seem to really connect new staff with experienced staff from across campus. Staff Senators felt that we could do something that was more timely (more often than once a term) and that was more personal. And so the program of "Welcome Wolves" was created.

The purpose of Welcome Wolves (like the iconic Welcome Wagon) is to connect a current staff who has volunteered to meet with a new staff member within a month of their coming to work at WOU. Staff Senate will provide a Java Crew gift card so the 2 staff can take some time to get to know each other and to answer any questions the new staffer may have about the campus.

Current staff who would like to share their knowledge and insights with a new staffer are encouraged to fill out the volunteer form available on the Staff Senate webpage soon. New staff will be encouraged to participate in this program as part of their New Employee training. Staff Senate's Welcome Wolves coordinator will review and match staff with new employees based on shared interests indicated on the forms. It will be up to the two staffers to determine a date & time for their get-together.



Meet the New Staff at WOU

Once again, the new staff were asked to answer one or more of a series of questions to introduce themselves to the WOU community beyond their offices. Here are some of their answers.



Kyle Rodgers, Admissions Counselor & Veterans Coordinator

What brought you to Oregon? I transferred from a larger college in South-

ern California after my grandparents offered their home in Dallas to me while they snowbird in Arizona. I wasn't doing so well at the big school, so I was really attracted to the more academically focused environment of WOU.

What is the best advice you have received from a co-worker? I have many great mentors and co-workers that have shared a plethora of knowledge and experience with me. I can't point to any specific piece of advice, but I can point out that their guidance and support have given me the confidence to strive forward with developing our new program even when some ideas may seem way outside the norm. I know that if I get off-track there is always someone available to reach out to.

Favorite Quote: "If I were to sum up what I've learned in 35 years of service, it's improvise, improvise, improvise." Gen. James T. Mattis, USMC

Alan Phillips, Analyst/Programmer, University Computing Services

What brought you to Oregon? The collapse of the Evergreen Aviation empire.

What is your favorite part about working at WOU? Everyone I work with is positive.

Favorite Quote: "Between the idea and the reality...falls the shadow." T.S. Eliot

Anything else people should know? July 4 and Halloween are my favorite holidays.

Dorothy McNerney, Business Office Operations (Accounts Payable)

What brought you to WOU? My husband currently works in the athletic department for WOU and I was looking for something part-time so I could spend more time with our now seven-month old daughter. I wanted to join in and be a part of the Western Oregon University family.



Max Chartier, Data Architect, University Computing Services

What brought you to Oregon? My wife is originally from the Portland area, while I grew up in hour from Boston. After visiting Oregon over the last 15 years while we moved all around the country, I knew this is where I wanted to be.

What is your favorite part about working at WOU? WOU has a small town feel to it (apart from actually being in a small town), which makes it feel very welcoming.

What do you like to do in your spare time? I enjoy camping, hiking, snowboarding and travelling.



New Staff at WOU

Liz Van Ert, Accounting Tech, Athletics Department

What brought you to Oregon? My family and I moved to Monmouth in 2001 as my husband, Dr. Timothy Van Ert was the staff Physician for WOU's Student Health Center.

What else would you like people to know about you? We have lived on the corner of Main St. and Stadium Dr in our 1928 vintage house for the past 13 years. We have sat in the WOU Stadium throughout these years cheering the Wolves on during those crisp fall football games and listened to the Pomp and Circumstance every spring as our senior class graduated stepping forward into a bright new future. My daughter, Larissa after submitting essays or artwork was awarded the prestigious honor of riding on the fire engine along with Santa in the annual Christmas parade to light our beloved grand sequoia Christmas tree. WOU has always been a part of our lives in more ways than one. My goal, although it has taken me twelve years to achieve, was to one day work at WOU. My first priority however was to give my daughter the solid foundation of having her mother at home while she in grade school. My patience has taught her a valuable life lesson which is to never, ever, give up on your dream.



Connie Haralson, Administrative Program Assistant, Graduate Programs

What brought you to Oregon? My daughter and her family moved from Indiana to Oregon in May, 2012. I came to Oregon to be closer to them. I looked for an opportunity to be part of a campus community and was lucky to join WOU in the Graduate Office.

What would you like people to know about you? My near future plan is to drive Highway 101 in my convertible.

Favorite quote: "Never, never, never give up."

- ◆ Brian Lytle, Custodian, WUC
- ◆ Brian Palmer, Trades Maintenance Worker, Physical Plant
- ◆ Coral Smith, Collections Agent, Business Office

- ◆ Emily Lafon, Alumni Relations Coordinator, University Advancement



- ◆ Heather Gonzalez, Chemistry Lab Preparator, Natural Sciences Division



- ◆ Kimo Von Oelhoffen, Assistant Football Coach, Athletics

- ◆ Sam Summers, Study Abroad Advisor, International Education & Development

- ◆ Toria Messinger, Office Coordinator, Multicultural Student Services & Programs



Photo Correction: This is the real Alaric!

Alaric Trousdale, Study Abroad & International Exchanges



Recycling Options

Sustainability is becoming an important part of the WOU culture. Many departments are making special efforts to leave a smaller footprint on the earth.

- *Compostable dinnerware is used in both Valsetz and in the Dining Service areas in the WUC (Wolf Grill & Deli, Wolf Express & Café Allegro). Deposit your items in the barrels with an apple symbol.*
- *Batteries can be turned in for recycling in the WUC. There's a bin by Café Allegro or you can turn them in at the WUC Info Desk.*
- *Paper with printing on one side can be turned into scratch paper pads at the Print Shop. How many post-its do you use just as scratch paper?*
- *Electronic waste can also be turned in for recycling at the WUC Info Desk.*
- *Used ink cartridges from your own or your office printers and copiers can also be recycled at the WUC Info Desk.*

Why Senate is Here

The purpose of the Staff Senate is....

-to promote positive dialogue among staff, faculty, administrators and students;
-to advise and recommend to the university president on matters outside the scope of collective bargaining;
-to make resolutions on behalf of constituencies and outside the scope of collective bargaining;
-to consider ideas or projects of importance to the university.

Your Input is Important to Us!!

We would appreciate any suggestions you might have as projects that Staff Senate can initiate, promote or support that would also promote a positive atmosphere on campus.

Mark Your Calendars

BLACK GRADUATION	6/11
LAVENDER GRADUATION	6/12
RCE HOODING CEREMONY	6/13
FACULTY/STAFF RECOGNITION BREAKFAST	6/14
COMMENCEMENT	6/14
HEATWAVE CONCERT	6/18
HEATWAVE CONCERT	6/25
SOAR 1	6/27
HEATWAVE CONCERT	7/2
INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY	7/4
HEATWAVE CONCERT	7.9
SOAR 2	7.11
SOAR 3	7/12
HEATWAVE CONCERT	7/16
HEATWAVE CONCERT	7/23
SOAR 4	7/26
LABOR DAY HOLIDAY	9/1
IN-SERVICE WEEKs	9/15-26
NEW STUDENT WEEK	9-/21-28
FIRST DAY OF FALL TERM	9/29



In the Fall Issue.....

.....Schedule of Staff Senate Meetings
2014-2015

.....Introductions to new Staff Senate members