

# **NDSU Staff Senate**

## **President's Report**

2010-2011

What an exciting year for our Staff Senate! We celebrated 21 years of staff committed to the idea that staff should have a voice in our campus community. We do have a voice and it grows in purpose and strength every year.

Thank you for your time, commitment and service to the growth of NDSU. We couldn't have become who we are and continue to move forward with purpose and action without the support of the campus community in our effort to contribute to the success of our students.

This past year was another year of progress and accomplishment. We welcomed President Bresciani to our campus formally in July. However, President Bresciani made the commitment to Staff and Staff Senate within the week of being named president to support and continue regularly scheduled meetings for updates and input. President Bresciani's addition of a staff representative to the President's Cabinet truly spoke to his support of Staff Senate as a representative body on campus.

We, the Staff, are student focused and continue to develop our relationship with Student Government and the student community. Our collaboration of the Valentine Ball to support Staff and Student scholarships grows stronger every year. Our continued efforts to bring more faculty members into the event cannot be lessened but strengthened through the relationship developed between both senates.

The invitation to Student Government to attend and report updates last year was extended to Faculty Senate with increased participation in the first part of 2011, as well as Staff sending representation to Student Government and Faculty Senate meetings to further a collaborative community. This small gesture has made tremendous impact on the way the three bodies view each other.

The relationship between Student Government, Faculty Senate and Staff Senate has been moved forward with real conversations, hard work and the joint commitment to the University. It will be important once again to continue the collaborative environment with all three bodies as Staff Senate provides leadership as the work continues on bylaws and the joint committee for policy is developed.

Another significant event was the inclusion of Staff Senate to be part of the interview process of the search for a new Provost. This again speaks to the status change for Staff on our campus. As a side note, the new Provost Dr. Rafert has expressed interest in meeting with Staff representatives on regular schedule.

The S.W.O.T. Analysis is completed by the Executive Committee and is now ready for the action items to be moved on to committee work or for action on the Senate Floor. These items will give more shape and definition to Staff Senate for staff at NDSU. As the work begins, remember it is our voices and ideas that will drive the effort ahead of us as a community.

The Proxy List has become a very valuable tool for senators to maintain a quorum and interest in Staff Senate. As senators we need to continuously be on the lookout for other staff who expresses interest in Staff Senate.

Always taking on new events to demonstrate staff support, Staff Senate is now the home of Gunkelman Award. The Gunkelman is another demonstration of appreciation for the work, commitment and service to the students and the University.

As I reflect back on a year, my year as NDSU Staff Senate President, I look back with such joy and excitement. I cannot believe the year has come to an end. I will miss some but not the all aspects of the job but will cherish every memory.

To the current Staff Senate, I commend you for your leadership, service and commitment to your fellow staff members here at NDSU as you move forward to represent the best staff on any university campus in the country – “We are North Dakota Proud”

Thank you for allowing me the honor of being your president.

Respectfully submitted,



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