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Fall 2015 Newsletter

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Message from the Chair

Greetings and salutations, Northwestern Colleagues!

Welcome back to an exciting new academic year. NUSAC is off to a great start and I am very excited to serve as your new Chair. On July 28, 2015 the Council held its annual retreat, which focused on teambuilding and identifying priorities for the coming year. Council members worked to identify ways to better support and serve the NU staff community. We identified the top priorities for the next year which include the following:

Career Advancement Staff Salaries Support & Development for Managers **Diversity & Inclusion**

We will keep you posted on the progress we make.

As you will see from our newsletter we have had a very active spring and summer. We had another wildly successful school supply drive. With your generosity we were able to provide



Tracey Gibson-Jackson

school supplies to the following organizations: Asian Youth Services, Marillac House, Holy Trinity Church, school district 65 and Fleetwood-Jourdain community center. In addition to helping local community organizations we were able to provide 30 backpacks filled with school supplies to NU staff members who needed a little help.

We had an amazing time at our 3rd annual Staff Mixer at the Northwestern vs. Ball State football game on September 26th. Over 450 people attended the mixer and we offer our thanks to all who came out to support this great event and to cheer on the Wildcats in a 24 -19 victory over Ball State. A very special thank you to NU Athletics and Human Resources for this amazing partnership. Be on the look-out for future NUSAC events.

I would like to challenge each of you to participate in at least one NUSAC sponsored event this year. We have a number of programs and events planned for the year, and hopefully something will pique your interest. Get involved and network with your colleagues, be curious and learn something new.

We are always open to hearing your thoughts and feedback so please don't hesitate to contact us. We are your voice!

Have a wonder fall quarter,

Tracev Gibson-Jackson NUSAC Chair

Health and Benefits Fair

Tuesday (10/13/15) on the Evanston campus and Tuesday (10/20/15) on the Chicago campus, NUSAC will be staffing a table at the annual Health & Benefits Fair. Staff planning to attend can learn more about NUSAC programs, ask questions to Council members, provide feedback on existing programs and initiatives, and receive free NUSAC merchandise.

Please mark your calendars for the following dates:

Evanston Health & Benefits Fair Tuesday, October 13th 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Norris University Center

Chicago Health & Benefits Fair Tuesday, October 20th 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Lurie Atrium

Flu Shots Available at Health and Benefits Fair or By Appointment

Flu shots will be available at both 2015 Health and Benefits Fairs at no cost for all Northwestern Faculty and Staff. No appointment necessary. **Please present your Northwestern Wildcard.** Spouses and dependent children (18+yrs) may receive a flu shot for \$29 with exact cash or check made payable to HMI at time of service.

Flu shots will also be available by appointment. Please schedule at www.myhmihealth.com.

Coffee with the President

Have you, or any of your colleagues, had a chance to attend a Coffee with the President? NUSAC works with the Office of Human Resources to randomly select a handful of current Northwestern staff to participate in these fun events. Each Coffee is an opportunity for a small number of staff to meet with President Schapiro in an informal setting to discuss anything from current events to staff challenges and concerns. It's a chance to network, get to know other NU staff, get to know President Schapiro, and learn more about how Northwestern operates.

The first Coffee of the new academic year will take place on Thursday, October 22, 2015 on the Chicago campus. There will be 5 additional Coffee dates between now and June 2016, on both the Chicago and Evanston campuses. If you'd like to learn more about the Coffee with the President events, please contact NUSAC via email at <u>nusac@northwestern.edu</u>.

Holiday Gift Drive

We will offer various ways for the Northwestern community to help families in need during the holiday season. In addition to adopting families, participants will be able to buy gifts online that will be sent directly to the organizations, and donating to the organization online.

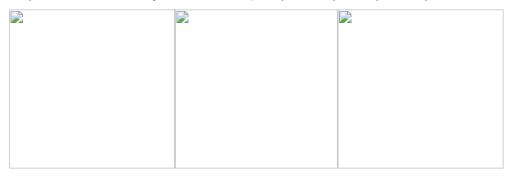
Like last year, we will work with Infant Welfare Society, Marillac Social Center, and Family Focus. We will also have additional organizations to choose from this year.

More details about the drive will be sent via email in November.

3rd Annual Staff Mixer

The NUSAC annual fall Staff Mixer is a great way for the community of Northwestern to come together. Faculty and staff from across both campuses enjoy the chance to mix and mingle on the Randy Walker Terrace while being treated to a tailgate style buffet before getting ready to cheer on the Wildcats. NUSAC looks forward to many more great opportunities for staff, their families and friends, to enjoy football games.

This year's Staff Mixer was another great success and we hope many more faculty and staff join us next year!



School Supply Drive

As mentioned by the Chair of NUSAC, Tracey Gibson-Jackson, the Summer School Supply Drive was very successful and as always we and the organizations you help us support appreciate your overwhelming generosity.

Below are photos of the items collected.



The Chicago Campus Lunchtime Book Club is a small group of people from various schools and departments on the Chicago campus who meet about once every 4-6 weeks to spend their lunchtime discussing a book. If you like to read, want to exercise your brain, and meet other NU colleagues based on the Chicago campus, this group is for you! There are actually two groups, with one meeting on Tuesdays and the other on Thursdays. I am the initial contact for both and can provide additional contact information for the Thursday group when requested.

Lynn Welch; I-welch2@northwestern.edu; 3-1685.

<u>Are you involved with a staff group on either the Evanston or Chicago campus?</u> NUSAC is collecting contact information for staff groups so that we can feature them in upcoming newsletters. Identifying the many great ways that staff members are involved will help NUSAC plan the next Staff Activity Fair that will be held in the upcoming academic year. Please email nusac@northwestern.edu with contact information for your group.

Dream big with Northwestern Theatre and Dance

"Welcome Subscription" - Discounted rate for Wirtz Center's 2015/2016 season

Once again, Northwestern University was rated a TOP TEN drama school this year (Backstage Magazine, College Magazine, and the Hollywood Reporter). The students, faculty and staff in NU Theatre and Dance are very proud of this distinction and would love to extend our pride to the wider campus community.

Northwestern employees can normally enjoy 20% off the full ticket price by purchasing a subscription, but first-time subscribers are eligible for an even greater discount through a NUSAC promotion this season! The "Welcome Subscription" will be offered for only \$90 (a deep discount from the regular faculty/staff price of \$132) during a "flash sale" on these dates: October 13 - 15. Use promo code "NUSAC" to receive your discount. To purchase your discounted subscription visit the Box Office located in the Ethel M. Barber Theater at 30 Arts Circle Drive, or call 847-491-7282. For more information about the season, which begins with GREEN DAY'S AMERICAN IDIOT on October 16, visit www.communication.northwestern.edu/wirtz/season1516.

Note: Discount is only available for first time subscribers to the Wirtz Center. Limit two subscriptions per order. Offer valid over the phone or in person only from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 13 and Thursday, October 15.

Parking Discounts for Evanston - Hybrid / High Mileage Vehicles

Northwestern University students, faculty, and staff who wish to park a hybrid/electric vehicle (as specified by the U.S. Department of Energy) on the Evanston campus are eligible for a reduced cost annual or academic year parking permit (20% reduction).

To qualify for the hybrid vehicle rebate/reduced cost permit you must:

Be the registered owner of a hybrid vehicle that appears on the United States Government's fuel economy website at www.fueleconomv.gov

The hybrid vehicle must be registered to the applicant or a family member living at the same address. Employee or student name (or address) must appear on the vehicle registration or lease agreement.

The following documents must be submitted in person to Parking Services:

Documentation (window sticker or other document) indicating hybrid/electric vehicle status. State registration records indicating electric or HEV status is acceptable.

Copy of the current Vehicle Registration showing the license plate information, vehicle make and registered owner's name and address.

The hybrid vehicle must be the primary vehicle driven to campus. Permits are not transferrable to other vehicles. In car pool permits, both vehicles must be hybrids to qualify for the discount.

If the participant no longer has the hybrid vehicle, they must return the hybrid permit and purchase a regular permit. A pro-rated refund will be applied toward the purchase of the regular faculty/staff or student permit.

Questions can be directed to the Parking Office (847-491-3319 or parking@northwestern.edu)

Campus Parking

There has been and continues to be a number of major construction projects in the Evanston campus which have resulted in parking reconfigurations and questions. If you're unsure where to park and when to park, or if you've received a parking citation and have wondered about fines, etc., the Parking Office's website outlines the university's parking operations and policies on parking permits, enforcement, towing, booting and the ticket appeals process. The site includes parking rules, maps and special event parking regulations along with an FAQ section, a list of parking violations and the appropriate fines.

Please visit the website for more information: www.northwestern.edu/up/parking.

October is <u>National Work/Family Month</u> - Upcoming HR workshops

NU Senior Care Connections: "Caregiving and Sibling Warfare?"

NU Life Matters: Financial Wellness "It's Never Too Early to Start Planning for the Future"

Pre-register today for National Work/Family Month Programming. Space is limited. View National Work/Family Month Flyer

Visit the Work/Life Resources Workshop web page

For information, to RSVP to any upcoming Work/Life workshops, or to request a workshop for your school or department, please visit <u>the Workshops web page</u>.

Benefits Open Enrollment

Open enrollment 2015 will be held October 19 through November 6.



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Northwestern University Staff Advisory Council

Contact NUSAC: Web site: www.northwestern.edu/nusac E-mail: nusac@northwestern.edu

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