

A word from your President:

The Classified Senate became functional on January 1, 1980, in response to an employee petition the year before. The Senate, at that time, was primarily concerned with salaries and wanted to remain strictly independent of the University and the University supported that view. Since then, the Senate has evolved. After just a few short years the Senate began lobbying Topeka for better salaries and retirement benefits. The University administration began to recognize the Senate as a useful source for input of ideas from the Classified Employees and started to solicit recommendations when filling positions on various committees.

After about five years the Senate began promoting an interest toward a permanent voice in Topeka on behalf of classified employees. In 1986, the Senate sent out its first copies of the newsletter. In 1988, the Senate amended its code to permit inclusion of about 400 employees, primarily in the skilled craft trades. The Senate was now able to function as an effective communications channel for all Classified Staff. In 1989, the Board of Regents invited Classified Senate representatives to one of its meetings, demonstrating that it too recognized the value of the Classified Senate as a spokesperson for Classified Employees.

The University administration became supportive of the view that Classified Employees are a part of the University community and welcomed the involvement of the Classified Staff in University affairs. The Senate's scope now covers salaries, health and retirement benefits, child care, legislative activities, University benefits, communications, personnel affairs and cooperation with Classified/Support Staff organizations at other state universities.

In April 2005, Governor Kathleen Sebelius signed Senate Bill 74 to transfer Classified Employees of the University of Kansas to University Support Staff employees. This momentous occasion was celebrated in the Kansas Union. The signed bill is now framed, matted, and hangs in the Governance's Office in 33 Strong Hall.

On July 1, 2005, the transfer of Classified Employees to University Support Staff became official with a telephone vote of the Kansas Board of Regents.

The University is engaged in a comprehensive Classification/Market Study. As part of this Study, it was deemed appropriate to have common employment categories. The University has therefore voluntarily offered the opportunity to university support staff to transition to unclassified professional staff under the auspices of the Study. Having a common staff category also provides more consistency in managing and following policies/practices. Vacant positions are being converted to unclassified professional staff as well.

In Phase I of the Study, the opportunity to voluntarily move from University Support Staff to Unclassified Professional Staff was offered to 501 employees. Of those employees, 300 chose to voluntarily move to unclassified professional staff. In Phase II of the Study about 50 staff will be afforded the same opportunity. The Study will be completed in the spring of 2015.

In December, many of our officers and senators became University Professional Staff as part of Phase I of the Study. New officers were voted to fill the unfilled terms of the President, Vice President, and Secretary.

As KU phases out Support Staff and creates **ONE University Staff** consisting of all former Support Staff and Unclassified Staff it has been suggested we look at **ONE University Senate** with representation from remaining Support Staff and all Unclassified Staff. A Task Force Committee has been created to discuss the feasibility of creating this senate. It will have equal representation of Support Staff and Unclassified Staff, with representation from General Counsel and the University Governance Office. The committee findings will be brought back to both senates with suggestions on how we might proceed so that all employees are represented and have a **strong voice** in University Governance at KU.

Continued from page 1

I ask that you give consideration to how you can be an active participant during this change. The University Support Staff Senate has a long history of staff involvement. Without **YOUR** participation (especially as our numbers decrease), we cannot be as active as we should. Currently, our Code allows for 30 senators on the Senate. We now have 20 senators. Senators are needed as well as Governance Committee and University Committee members. With the attached ballot, you can nominate for officers as well as senate members.

All committees are listed on our website, <http://www.uss.ku.edu/university-support-staff-committees>.

Consider how you can participate, complete and return the ballot as instructed. If you are concerned about getting time off work to participate in senate activities, let me know. I can be reached by email at bcolbert@ku.edu, by phone, 785-864-5455 and I currently work at the Visitor Center (1st floor) if you wish to drop by.

Sincerely,

Betty Colbert, University Support Staff President

Nomination for University Support Staff Senate and University Support Staff Officers

"The Senate exists to represent the interests of all support staff employees of the University of Kansas (Lawrence & Edwards campuses), to provide an open forum for the expression of those interests; and to bring those interests to the attention of the university administration and other concerned individuals, organizations, and government entities" -- from the USS Senate Code Article II.

Members elected to the University Support Staff Senate serve two years, beginning at the first full senate meeting in May. The Senate meets on the second Wednesday of each month from 10:30 – 12:00. The Executive Council Board, which is made up of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Committee chairs, meets on the first Wednesday of each month from 11:30 – 1:00 p.m.

If you're interested in being a member, or know someone who is, please complete the following information and return it by March 28, 2014 by campus mail to: University Governance, Room 33 Strong Hall, or electronic form located at: <http://www.uss.ku.edu/nomination-university-support-staff-senate-and-officers>. If you have any questions, please call 864-5169. All nominees are contacted regarding their nomination. Please indicate if the nomination is for president, vice-president, secretary or treasurer.

President, Vice President, Secretary & Treasurer positions are open for nomination.

Name: _____ Department: _____

Job title: _____ EEO Category: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Do you have a concern you would like to see addressed by the University Support Staff Senate?

EEO categories by job titles are listed on page four.

Preferences for University Support Staff Membership on FY2015 University Support Staff Senate Committees and University Governance Committees

Any Support Staff may sign up for University Support Staff Senate Committees and University Governance Committees. Some University Governance Committee positions are appointed by the USSS President, and some by the Provost based on recommendations by the USSS President.

Further information on the work of these committees and boards can be found on the Support Staff website at <http://www.uss.ku.edu/>. Please complete the Preference form below and return it by March 28, 2014 by campus to: University Governance, 33 Strong, or electronic form: <http://www.uss.ku.edu/preferences-membership-committees>.

Membership on the University Support Staff Senate and Committees gives voice to the many issues affecting the University Support Staff.

Name: _____
Department Phone # and Email Address

If you choose to serve on a University Support Staff Senate Committee, the chairperson of that committee will contact you regarding meeting dates and times. If you choose to serve on a University Governance Committee*, you will be notified if you've been appointed.

University Support Staff Senate Standing Committees (1-year terms): all Support Staff are eligible to serve on Support Staff Committees. For descriptions of these committees: <http://www.uss.ku.edu/university-support-staff-committees>

- _____ Communications & Public Relations Committee
- _____ Legislative Affairs
- _____ Personnel Affairs Committee
- _____ Administration Liaison Committee – 3-year term

University Governance Committees*: for descriptions of these committees, see <http://www.uss.ku.edu/university-governance-committees>

University Senate Standing Committees (3-year terms)

- _____ Academic Computing and Electronic Communications
- _____ Academic Policies and Procedures
- _____ Athletic
- _____ Calendar
- _____ International Affairs
- _____ Libraries
- _____ Organization and Administration
- _____ Planning and Resources
- _____ Retiree Rights and Benefits

University Boards & Commission

- _____ Judicial Board – 3-year term
- _____ Parking Commission – 3-year term
- _____ Library Appeals Board – 2-year term
- _____ Disciplinary Action Hearing Board – 3-year term
- _____ Transit Commission – 3-year term (University Committee)

* Some University Governance Committee positions are appointed by the University Support Staff (USS) Senate President and some by the Provost from recommendations by the USS Senate President. By filling out this form and returning it to the Governance Office you are informing the USS Senate of your interest in serving on certain University Committees. Due to the limited number of USS positions on most committees (usually only one), it may not be possible to appoint everyone to the committees of their choice. Unexpected vacancies may occur and your preferences will be considered.

EEO categories and job title

EEO 3 - Professional

Accountant
Accounting Specialist
Human Resources Specialist
Human Resources Specialist Senior
Information Resource Specialist
Administrative Professional

Management Systems Analyst
Museum Specialist
Dietitian
Procurement Specialist
Project Manager Mech Engr.
Storekeeper

EEO 4 - Administrative Assistants/Specialists -

Administrative Assistant
Administrative Associate
Administrative Associate Senior
Communications Specialist
Emergency Communications Specialist
Emergency Communications Spec. Spr.

Library Assistant
Library Associate
Library Manager
Office Assistant
Office Manager
Payroll Benefits Specialist

EEO 5 Technician, Computer Services, Information Technology

Audio Visual Technician
IT Support Technician
IT Technology Coordinator
Electronics Technician Senior
Electronics Technologist
Engineering Technician
Graphics Specialist

Instrumentation Technician
Licensed Practical Nurse
Operations/Laboratory Technician
Radiologic Technologist
Research Technologist
Technology Support Consultant
Technology Support Tech

EEO 6 - Skilled Trades

Assistant Skilled Trades Supervisor
Boiler Operator
Boiler Operator Senior
Boiler Technician
Carpenter
Carpenter Senior
Electrician
Electrician Senior
Equipment Mechanic
Equipment Mechanic Senior
Facilities Specialist
General Maint. Worker
General Maint. Repair Tech
General Maint. Repair Tech Sr.
HVAC Technician

HVAC Technician Sr.
Maintenance Supervisor
Mason Senior
Painter
Painter, Senior
Plumber Senior
Pump Mechanic
Sheet Metal Worker Senior
Skilled Trades Manager
Skilled Trades Supervisor
Steamfitter
Steamfitter Senior
Equipment Operator
Locksmith Senior
Lock Systems Specialist

EEO 7 – Plant, animal care, protective services

Parking Officer
Police Captain
Police Investigator
Police Officer
Police Sergeant
Security Officer
Animal Science Worker
Landscape Supervisor

Landscape Worker
Landscape Worker Sr.
Assistant Custodial Supervisor
Custodial Supervisor
Custodian
Food Service Supervisor
Food Service Worker



2014 THE BIG EVENT@KU JOIN US FOR THE LARGEST ONE-DAY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE AT KU SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2014

 **4,500 KU VOLUNTEERS**
 KU Student, Staff or Faculty? Want to volunteer?
 Register your group, department, class ... or just yourself!

 **300 LAWRENCE COMMUNITY JOB SITES**
 Lawrence community member? Register your job site!
 Help is not need based - just our way of saying thanks.
 Register your home, school, church ... anyone that wants help!

BIG EVENT REGISTRATION OPENS
 --- FRIDAY ---
JANUARY 31
 ---2014---

For more information please see: <http://thebigeventku.com/about/>

Faculty and Staff Wellness

Faculty and Staff Wellness is not a part of KU Recreation Services or any other department on campus. The Wellness Committee consists of individuals who have a strong passion for wellness and have interest in helping the University of Kansas's Faculty and Staff. The mission of the committee is to encourage and promote the well-being of faculty and staff through education, prevention, and support for development of healthier choices. The committee focuses on the Seven Dimensions of Wellness. We find topics that the campus is interested in learning more about, and then we go out and find an expert on the topic who will present at the Lunch-N-Learns. Our big event is the Faculty and Staff Wellness Fair, which takes place **Wednesday April 9, 2014, 7:30am to 1:30pm**, in three locations: Ambler Student Recreation Fitness Center, Watkins Health Center and Robinson gymnasium. We invite over 100 different organizations and businesses on and off campus. The goal of the fair is to help Faculty and Staff improve their health. The committee is just starting and is always looking for new members. Please check us out at our website www.wellness.ku.edu for our next meeting.

In Wellness,

Faculty and Staff Wellness Committee.



University Governance
33 Strong Hall
1450 Jayhawk Boulevard
Lawrence, KS 66045

