11-25-2020

The Grizzly Details, November 2020

Staff Assembly
FRESH FACES
Congratulations and welcome to our new Staff Assembly board members!

AVA WILLIS-BARKSDALE
Staff Assembly President
Ava started at Ursinus almost 2 years ago. Too extensive to list here, her experience with emphasis on staff strategies makes her the perfect match for this role. Fun fact: Ava comes from a family of accomplished musicians and has been singing for most of her life.

MELANIE J. CUNNINGHAM
Staff Assembly Vice President
Melanie found her role in the Dean's office just over a year ago. Supporting the Deans and working with department admins, she enjoys the experience of intersecting with varied parts of the college. A return to the Appalachian trail is on her bucket list of adventures, but family time and snuggling with her dog are just fine for now.

NANCY IMES
Staff Assembly Treasurer
Nancy came to the business office in 2017 having earned her BBA in accounting through the Evening Division. She is key in making sure we all get paid. While she likes to stay under the radar, her multiple talents range from knitting to holding a black belt in Kenpo Karate!

DIANE HAMMER
Staff Assembly Secretary
Diane has been at Ursinus 16 years and going strong! After putting in her hours in Enrollment Operations, she enjoys biking on the local trails and spending time with her grandson. Her favorite travel experience was driving across the country to Alaska to meet her son returning from active military duty.

NEXT STAFF ASSEMBLY MEETING
Mark your calendars!
Thursday, December 17, 2020 from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

CALL FOR PHOTOS!
Send us your best holiday photos, family photos, or your best work from home attire! Please email staffassembly@ursinus.edu by Tuesday, December 15 to have your photos featured at our next staff assembly meeting!

BEAR IN MIND
Please send us your topic of interest, comment, concern, or suggestion. All submissions can be given anonymously unless you choose to provide your name. You can complete the Bear In Mind form on the Staff Assembly website, or email your comment to: bearinmind@ursinus.edu.
THE LAUGHLIN & TORTORELLI STAFF AWARDS

Earlier this month, the annual staff awards were presented to two longtime, dedicated employees of the college. The Flora A. Tortorelli Staff Service Award was awarded to Mike Twarogowski, supervisor of support services. Erin Hovey, digital content manager, was honored with the Laughlin Distinguished Administrator Award.

Mike was described as “a true team player, cheerful, approachable, honest and creative. He makes things happen and is an unsung hero of every major event on this campus.”

Erin, an Ursinus alumna, was described as “the definition of a ‘Bear for life,’ known for her great sense of humor and as a positive person who likes to solve problems, even if those problems seem impossible.”

2021 OPEN ENROLLMENT

The Open Enrollment Period for 2021 is live, and will end Friday, December 4, 2021 at 11:59 p.m..

We will be using the online tool through our payroll vendor, ADP, for processing open enrollment choices. ADP will be accessible for enrollment during the open enrollment period.

The 2021 benefits guide is now available for your review. There are also additional resources available on the HR webpage regarding plans, costs, and contact information to help answer any questions.

This year, it is not mandatory for all eligible employees to log onto the ADP system. However, if you currently contribute to a Health Savings Account (HSA) or Flexible Savings Account (FSA for health care or dependent care), you will need to log in to the system to indicate your new contribution for 2021. Also, if you are currently participating in an annual gift to the college, you will need to log in to the system if you choose to renew the gift for 2021.

As with any open enrollment, once the period closes, you will not be able to make changes to your benefits again until the 2022 open enrollment period, unless there's a qualifying life event.

OPEN ENROLLMENT SESSIONS

There is still time to attend our last virtual information session! Use this opportunity to meet and ask specific questions with the insurance representatives (Independence Blue Cross and MetLife), OneDigital (formerly, Kistler Tiffany Benefits), and the HR Team:

- **Tuesday, December 1, 10 a.m.**
  - For full-time employees with questions specifically directed to Independence Blue Cross for medical coverage and/or The Harrison Group for Heath Reimbursement Accounts (HRA) or Health Savings Accounts (HSA). Register [here](#).

If you have any questions regarding open enrollment, benefits options or the ADP open enrollment site, please contact either Cale Nelson at 610-409-3185 or Gia Victorino at 610-409-3342.

NACA RECOGNIZES O’BRIEN

Congratulations are in order for Katie O’Brien, student success and retention specialist, for earning the Mid Atlantic Higher Education Research Scholarship from the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA) Foundation. The Foundation currently offers a variety of scholarships to assist undergraduate students, graduate students, professional staff, and associate members in pursuing educational interests and career development.
MLK WEEK 2021

#GIVING2UCDAY 2020

#Giving2UCday is a day for alumni, faculty, staff, parents, students and friends to join together and combine their support to make a real difference in the lives of students today and in the future! This year, this effort is particularly important as we navigate the challenges of COVID-19 and increased costs associated with financial assistance for students, cleaning, testing and technology.

ABOUT #GIVING2UCDAY

The seventh annual #Giving2UCday will take place on Tuesday, December 1, 2020 from 12 a.m. through 11:59 p.m. EST. This year, we based our theme of the effort on the Michael Faraday quote etched over the entrance of Pfahler Hall: “But still try, for who knows what is possible.” This year, we’re striving to reach our largest goal ever—2,020 donors in 24 hours. Contact Colleen Fida ’15, associate director of annual giving, at cfida@ursinus.edu or 610-409-3321 with any questions.

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

Participate! Be 1 of the 2,020 donors on December 1! #Giving2UCday is all about participation and all gifts, no matter the size, will help us reach our goal. Give online at ursinus.edu/giving2ucday on December 1!

Likewise, payroll deduction is a wonderful way to support Ursinus as staff members. (Thank you to those who already participate!) If you have any questions related to this or would like to see if you are already enrolled, please contact Abbie Cichowski Kim ’10, director of alumni relations and annual giving, at 610-409-3085 or acichowski@ursinus.edu.

SPREAD THE WORD

Encourage others to get involved on this important day! If you are on social media, raise awareness using the #Giving2UCday hashtag and be sure to make your posts public. Make sure you like and share the posts from Ursinus College and Ursinus College Alumni.

SHOW YOUR UR SINUS PRIDE!

Wear red, old gold, and black on December 1. Take a photo in your UC best and send it to ucalumni@ursinus.edu that day for a chance to be featured on social media.

Beginning Monday, January 18, we will again begin the spring semester with a week of celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the legacy of the civil rights movement. A number of events will take place virtually, and on campus. Activities will include a series of lightning talks; film screenings; discussion; and plans for the future. We hope you will join us in our efforts to honor Dr. King, the legacy of the Civil Rights Movement, and the future of inclusion and equity at Ursinus.

This year’s observance of MLK Week will also include the annual Inclusion Awards in recognition of students, faculty and staff who have advanced inclusion and equity at Ursinus. To nominate an individual, email inclusionawards@ursinus.edu and include one paragraph on that person’s contributions to inclusion and equity on campus.