

**Faculty Senate Meeting
Staff Senate Update [December 4]**

Staff Senate met on November 12

- a. **Office of Inclusive Excellence Update:** Dr. Lee Gill provided an overview of the Division of Institutional Equity which includes Health Equity and Engagement, Title IX, and Culture and Equity Center. Tim Beam is the new Title IX Director. Dr. Gill emphasized that the operational strategic plan for the unit is based on the following four pillars:
- student success;
 - climate and culture;
 - recruitment and retention; and
 - professional development for faculty and staff.
- Several information sessions will be held throughout this semester and the spring regarding the implementation of the unit's strategic plan. Additional information about the office is located at: <https://louisville.edu/institutionalequity>.
- b. **Ongoing and Upcoming Construction Projects:** Megan Campbell provided an update on all of the construction happening around campus. UofL has received asset preservation dollars from the legislators during the past two budget cycles (\$106 million and \$84 million respectively). Both of these dollar amounts have contributions from the university as well. Roof repairs/replacements, new HVAC systems, new windows, and new electrical panels were installed on several buildings over the summer. Upcoming projects include working on the Life Sciences and Chemistry buildings as well as Lutz Hall and a complete renovation of the Humanities building. The Humanities building still has chairs from 1958. Work will begin soon on the new \$280 million Health Sciences Center building. Money is also being allocated to address ADA compliance issues such as expanding the number of accessible bathrooms.
- c. **University President:** President Schatzel provided an update regarding:
- Administrative searches. President Schatzel expressed optimism over the candidate pools for these positions.
 - i. The Executive Vice President for Administration and Finance (CFO) search is ongoing and the goal is to have the candidate identified by the end of the fall semester.
 - ii. The Executive Vice President for Innovation and Research and the Vice President for Philanthropy and Alumni Relations searches are ongoing. The goal is to have offers out by the end of January 2025 with individuals starting by March 1, 2025.
 - President Schatzel applauded the efforts of those in financial aid and enrollment management in their handling of the FAFSA challenges.
 - President Schatzel deferred a question regarding the university holiday calendar for the next few years to Provost Bradley. Provost Bradley will be joining staff senate in December to share an update on how the decision was made.
- d. **Library Changes and Budget Update:** Dr. Bob Fox provided an update on recent renovations to the Ekstrom Library. The Library has been experiencing a budget shortfall for the past few years due to increasing costs. As a result, some journal collections will not be renewed. For more information about the collection cuts, please visit the Library's website (<https://library.louisville.edu/home>).
- e. **FLSA:** Darrell Clark, VP for Human Resources, discussed the upcoming changes to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) which increases the salary threshold for non-exempt employees to \$58,656.