

## **Staff Morale and Engagement**

The SME Committee met via MS Teams on October 22, 2020

Attendees: Kenneth Allen, Bobbi Carlton, Skip Hurley, Jessica Key, Korinne Quire, Angela Ren, Melissa Taylor, Mani Vangalur

### **Committee Business**

The committee welcomed new member, Mani Vangalur, to the group. Korinne Quire is a new senator with an interest in the work of the committee and also volunteered to join us. Any senator interested in attending a future meeting may do so by requesting a meeting invite from Melissa Taylor.

The updated committee description was presented. It is still very brief and vague. Committee members were encouraged to suggest any changes or updates that come to mind. The committee will go through the process of officially updating our name and description when the new Bylaws process is rolled out (upon Staff Senate approval).

It was suggested the committee use MS Teams to stay in touch between meetings rather than using email. This would be a simple transition because we already have a team set up for this group's meeting calendar.

### **COVID-19**

Mandatory COVID testing continues. The lines appear to be shorter and results have been sent in less than 24 hours this round.

The current remote work policy has been extended through June 2021.

### **Staff Morale**

The committee received positive feedback from the Senate on the welcome card/email idea for new staff hires. We are working with Human Resources to obtain permission to receive the NEO roster each week. Once permission is granted for this project, the committee will decide on whether to send welcome emails or the preferred hand-written welcome cards. We are unsure if the committee has a budget for items such as physical cards to send via campus mail.

The committee was notified this week that the Office of Diversity and Equity had received access to the Fall 2019 Climate Survey results. Andrew Grubb is checking into this again on behalf of the Staff Senate.

### **Staff Engagement**

The Staff Senate Informational Flier to be handed out at New Employee Orientation was updated with committee feedback and sent to our contact with Faculty Senate for their side of the flier.

The Cardinal Cupboard is available to UofL staff and faculty as well as students and is in need of donations. The Staff Senate Executive Committee felt this would be a good place for the committee to encourage staff engagement. This suggestion received a positive response. The committee will obtain more details before creating something to distribute to constituents. The committee acknowledged the pantry's needs are ever changing. For those who want to donate food items rather than money, there was a suggestion for the Cardinal Cupboard to snap photos of their inventory to possibly share on social media and let us know is needed during a particular week so there is not too much of one thing and not enough of another.

