

# Staff Congress Newsletter



## Chair Chat

Welcome to our February newsletter! The spring semester is underway, the days are getting longer, and better weather is right around the corner.

We have met with President Morgan to have some discussions about what future raises might look like for this year, and the new version of PG-48 lifts the monthly cap on vacation accrual, giving staff some added flexibility on how we choose to spend our earned vacation days. We've spoken with the President about ways to start raising MSU salaries to 2022 levels, and MSU is in line to receive additional funds from the state for building preservation and restoration.



With Covid-19 cases falling across the nation, and the possibility of a refocus on education in the state, we're getting lots of good news.

Let's keep our focus on our students and each other as we work to fulfill the university's mission. MSU needs you!

-Dave Flora, Staff Congress Chair

## February 2022

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## Staff Spotlight | Garrick Ratliff

*This section highlights a Staff Congress representative.*



**Garrick Ratliff**  
Assistant Director, Guidance  
Counseling Services

Hello! I'm Dr. Garrick Ratliff, the Assistant Director for Guidance and Counseling at the Craft Academy for Excellence in Science and Mathematics. Before coming to the Craft Academy, I worked for nineteen years in the public school system. I served in many roles in the public school system: Teacher, Guidance Counselor, Assistant Principal, Principal, District Assessment Coordinator, Director of Pupil Personnel, Instructional Supervisor, and Assistant Superintendent. My job duties at the Craft Academy are College admissions; Scholarships; Community service and activities; High school graduation requirements; National and state assessments; Liaison person between school and parent; School district contacts; Counseling services, and Infinite Campus supervisor, to name a few. I received my Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Morehead State University in the spring of 2013.

One of the biggest reasons I like participating in Staff Congress is to meet new people and work with the other departments on campus to help move MSU forward. Getting to know others in this working environment helps me understand how policies influence others differently from my department, and we can work together to make MSU better.

## Resources | Share Your MSU News

*This section provides resources available to all MSU staff. If you have resources that you would like to share with the MSU Staff community, please send them to [x.scott@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:x.scott@moreheadstate.edu).*

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### MSU OneDrive

Employees at Morehead State University are encouraged to back up important files to [OneDrive](#) or another shared space so that they can be accessed when they are needed, even during winter closures.

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### Eagle Alerts / Weather Plans

On the MSU site, you can find the [Weather Plans page](#), where it explains the current weather plans and has a link to [Eagle Alerts](#), where you can sign up for important notifications.

## Campus Announcements

*The following events are scheduled for this month at the Morehead State University residential campus. If you have announcements that you would like to share with the MSU Staff community, please send them to [x.scott@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:x.scott@moreheadstate.edu).*

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### Vaccination Opportunities

Vaccines are also available by appointment at the MSU Counseling & Health Services clinic in Allie Young Hall. Call (606) 783-2055 to schedule your appointment.

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### Employment Opportunities

In an effort to help fill open positions at MSU, we request that you view and share the employment opportunities with your peers and associates. Job postings can be found on the [MSU PeopleAdmin](#) site.

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### Employee Information Changes

Employees whose contact information has changed are encouraged to complete the [Employee Information Change Form](#).

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### At-Home COVID-19 Tests

At-Home COVID tests are now available at <https://www.covidtests.gov/>. Note that these tests expire, so only order what is necessary.

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## Staff Salutes

The following salutes were submitted for this month. If you know of a worthy candidate, you can submit your suggestion on the [Submit a Staff Salute](#) page.

No Staff Salutes were submitted for the month of January.

## Staff Congress Meeting Summary

In this section, we summarize the reports from the Staff Congress monthly meeting.

- Due to a temporary change in workflow in Secretary Scott's department, the January Newsletter was replaced with an unconfirmed copy of the meeting minutes rather than the usual format. Secretary Scott hopes to resume the usual format for the February or March newsletter.
- Members and guests have been absent due to scheduling conflicts. Secretary Scott suggested that we reevaluate the monthly meeting times to improve attendance. Chair Flora suggested that we send out a poll to all participants to determine the best meeting time.
- Representative Debbie Ellis, Chair of the Benefits & Compensation Committee (BCC), reported that the committee agreed to move forward with the original proposed change to [PG-48](#), which indicated that excess annual leave (vacation) balances will carry over until June 30<sup>th</sup>, after which the time above the limit will be removed. Originally, this process would be done monthly. A motion to approve this change was given by Representative Jamey Carver and seconded by Representative Tasha Purvis. With a majority vote, the motion was approved.
- Representative Toni Hobbs, Chair of the Credentials & Elections Committee (CEC), reported that there will be several Staff Congress vacancies this fiscal year. CEC will begin preparing for the election process in the next meeting.
- Staff Regent Joel Pace reported that the Board of Regents approved the compensation plan for 2022, including a \$500 stipend for full-time personnel who were hired on or prior to September 1, 2021 in the mid-February payroll run. The second stipend will appear in May.
- Dr. Caroline Atkins reported:
  - The issues with health equity card funds are resolved. If staff still have issues, they should call the Office of Human Resources at 606-783-2097 or email [humanresources@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:humanresources@moreheadstate.edu).
  - Annual performance evaluations are coming up. Evaluation period is April 2021-March 2022.
  - HR is working on the annual staff appreciation celebration, which is estimated to be held in the third week of May.

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## Staff Concerns

Comment/Concern	Response
<p>I'm concerned about the appearance of the library. Aside from the stained carpets throughout, it looks like it needs a thorough cleaning.</p> <p>It's my understanding there is only one person assigned to clean the library— part of the day. This doesn't seem sufficient to cover such a large building. Ceiling tiles are covered in dust, HVAC units are as well. Walls are dirty and the edges of all flooring are grimy. The windows are always dirty, as well. It is a beautiful building with heavy traffic. I think we can do better than this.</p>	<p>Facilities Management has been notified and will give extra attention to the Library in the coming weeks</p>

## Thanks for Reading | Suggestions

Thanks for reading the Staff Congress Newsletter. We're proud to be a part of your community. Please send any suggestions about the newsletter to Xavier Scott at [x.scott@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:x.scott@moreheadstate.edu)

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