

Staff Congress Newsletter



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.

Staff Congress Nominations

The 2023 Staff Congress Election season is here! [Nominate a staff member or yourself](#) for Staff Congress Representative for a chance to join! Nominations will be accepted until **4 p.m. on Friday, April 14th**.

Staff Congress Elections

The 2023 Staff Congress election will be held online **April 25th-26th**. Each eligible staff member will have the opportunity to vote via electronic ballot. The election link will be sent to your MSU email account prior to the election.

MSU Farm Plant Sale

The MSU Farm Plant Sale will be held from April 17th-20th at the MSU Greenhouse. Purchases help support the Agriculture program.

Celebration of Student Scholarship

Join us for the [Celebration of Student Scholarship](#) on Wednesday, April 19th, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., at ADUC. This celebration seeks to share and showcase the outstanding work of students involved in research, scholarship, creative work, and performance arts to the campus community.

April 2023

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The President's Concert on the Lawn

The annual [President's Concert on the Lawn](#) at Morehead State features the [MSU Jazz Ensemble](#) (directed by Dr. Ryan McGillicuddy) and the [MSU Commercial Music Ensemble](#) (directed by Glenn Ginn.) The event takes place outdoors on the beautiful MSU campus at the ADUC/Lappin Hall quad and showcases the talents of the University's talented music students.

This event is free and open to the public.

MSU Employee Appreciation Event

The annual celebration of Morehead State employees is scheduled for Wednesday, April 26th. Please plan to join us outside of ADUC from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Recognition of service will begin at 11:00 a.m.

2023 Spring Gala

The [2023 Morehead State University Gala](#) theme is "An Evening at the Circus". The Gala show will feature faculty and students from the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance, plus the MSU Cheerleaders and Dance Team paying tribute to the music from "The Greatest Showman". The MSU Gala is Saturday, April 29th.

Star Theater

MSU's [Star Theater](#) offers free shows for faculty, staff, and students, on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month. There are also weekly laser shows on Wednesdays at 6pm.

Morehead State Enrollment Management Needs Our Help!

During the month of May, Morehead State EM staff will need help delivering MSU yard signs to our incoming fall 2023 students. If you are willing to assist in adding to the Eagle spirit please fill out the [MSU Road Sign Volunteer form](#).

The EM team will reach out mid-April to set up a schedule with you. Thanks for your part in welcoming our new students to the university!

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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.

Victoria Cooper – Administrative Assistant

Vickie is always quick to lend a helping hand with whatever needs to be done. She knows what to do and who to contact when someone has a question. She greets everyone with a smile and makes them feel at ease.

Jen Timmermann - Director of Transition Services

Jen is always helpful and accommodating. She is looking outside the box to help students transfer to MSU. She devotes her time each day helping students and families.

Matthew “Matt” Hyden - Director of Trio Student Support Services

Matt has done amazing things for the TRIO program and Student Support Services. He continues to seek resources for our students to give them opportunities they may otherwise not know exist. It is clear to see the amount of care and pride he puts into his responsibilities for the students and our Eagle community.

Staff Congress Meeting Summary

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

Vice Chair Helisha Tuerk provided the report for Dr. J. Morgan:

- Dr. Morgan is working on the salary increases for degree completion, which should be completed soon.

Vice-Chair Helisha Tuerk reported:

- Helisha attended the March Faculty Senate meeting, where she gave an update about:
 - the stipend for completing an advanced degree, and that has been moved to the Benefits & Compensation Committee.
 - Staff Congress election dates.

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B&C Chair Rianna Robinson reported:

- B&C Chair Robinson and Staff Congress Chair Dave Flora met with Dr. Caroline Atkins to discuss changes in language needed for the stipend for completing an advanced degree. Chair Robinson was tasked with writing text to replace the lines that currently indicate that Staff must submit their degree within 1 year of completion to gain the stipend, as well as to indicate that this change is not retroactive. The text has been provided to the Board of Regents.
- No time parameters were set for submitting degrees going forward.
- It remains the responsibility of staff members to inform their supervisors of their impending graduation and to request the stipend.
- Discussions were had about how best to share information about the stipend so that future staff are aware of the process.

C&E Chair Toni Hobbs reported:

- An email about the upcoming Staff Congress elections was recently sent out. Toni will send a reminder email soon.

Ad-Hoc Committee Chair Lora Pace reported:

- The FYS Subcommittee meeting was cancelled, so no report is provided. The next meeting will be held in April.

Staff Regent, Joel Pace, reported:

- Regent Pace has reached out to Facilities Management about the parking issue that will arise when the lot behind Howell-McDowell is closed this Fall.
- The Board of Regents (BoR) approved the six-year capital plan, where we request funding from Frankfort, as well as permission to do things on campus that we can do ourselves.
 - Included in this plan are plans for an interdisciplinary classroom building and to renovate the Combs building.
- The BoR completed the evaluations of President Morgan and of the Board.

Director of Human Resources, Dr. Caroline Atkins, reported:

- The Employee Appreciation Event will be held on April 26th at 10:30am. There will be wellness giveaways and games.
- The Office of Human Resources (OHR) has completed the April 1st wage increases. Exempt (salary) employees will see the raise on the 15th paycheck, and non-exempt (hourly) employees will see their raise on the April 30th paycheck.
- Staff are encouraged to check out the [Official MSU Human Resources Facebook Page](#) for current wellness activities.

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Cabinet Report: Mary Fister-Tucker reported:

- Discussed [Senate Joint Resolution 98](#). The proposal requires the CPE (Council on Postsecondary Education) to investigate the possibility of establishing a public four-year university in southeastern Kentucky. It also calls for an evaluation of whether the technical education currently provided by the Kentucky Community and Technical College System should be separated from traditional academic subjects and transitioned to regional four-year public universities.
- [SOAR](#) (Student Orientation, Advising & Registration) registrations are up, which historically meant that our freshman enrollment was also up. Staff are requested to sign up to deliver MSU yard signs.

Faculty Senate Report: Dr. David Long reported:

- The interim Provost position will be filled for 1 year, while MSU searches for a permanent replacement. Faculty Senate voted 3-1 in favor of a national search and an outside person.
- The Dean of the College of Science, Dr. Wayne Miller, is leaving the University. There have been internal negotiations for who will be the Dean going forward, and any restructuring that may be required.

Student Government Association (SGA) President Chloe Marstiller reported:

- The SGA elections have concluded. President Marstiller introduced President-Elect Presley Boyer.
- MSU [Student Choice Awards](#) are coming up. Voting will take place on April 11th-12th. The Banquet will be on April 26th at 7pm in Ballrooms A and B in ADUC.

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Staff Concerns

The following concerns were submitted by staff on the anonymous [Staff Congress Questions & Concerns form](#).

| Comment/Concern | Response |
|---|--|
| <p>What is MSU official policy about bringing children to work? Are there liability issues?</p> | <p>The issue of dependents at work is covered under UAR323.02. His states: “staff finding it necessary to bring their child or other dependent under their care or supervision to the workplace on an occasional and short-term basis must have the permission of their respective supervisor.”</p> |
| <p>Today, one of our MSU affiliates came on to campus for a presentation and tried to conduct a WebEx meeting with our staff and off-site colleagues from her laptop, but she was unable to create a guest account for the MSU_GUEST wi-fi using her laptop from the guest portal because doing so would require wi-fi to complete the process. We had four MSU staff members trying to help her resolve the issue and get her laptop connected. Finally, we had to tap out and contact the IT help desk. When the IT person who was assisting us realized the issue, she was instructed to use her cellphone to create access credentials and create a user account which would send a verification code to her email so that she could get wi-fi access for her laptop. We spent thirty minutes trying to fix the issue but still did not get access for our affiliate's laptop because of the time-sensitive meeting window, and therefore had to rig an inferior alternative tech set-up. This process is terribly cumbersome and is problematic for time-sensitive meetings with campus affiliates. It created a very unprofessional situation for our affiliate. Is there any way to streamline or simplify the MSU_GUEST process so guests at our campus have a better experience?</p> | <p>MSU’s Office of Information Technology responded saying they have a “team working on completing a how-to knowledge base article for the guest access sponsor portal. We will provide this once it is completed and will also begin some communication with our campus community to provide awareness of this service offering.”</p> |

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When are we going to address the fact that they are taking away the parking lot behind Howell McDowell for the new Science & Engineering Building. What is the plan for those who park there, there are not enough employee spaces elsewhere for central campus. There will ultimately be more wanting to park in this area with the influx of science and engineering faculty/staff when the building is complete. It is not viable to have faculty and staff park at the US-60 lot and walk or take the bus to main campus, there are those with health issues and there is only one bus running. With construction set to begin next year, what is the plan.

The concern has been sent to Facilities Management. Awaiting a response.

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

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