

Staff Congress Newsletter



President Chat



Xavier Scott
Staff Congress President

At Morehead State University, we're really excited about the impact we're making. From our students playing a key role in a moon mission to honoring over a thousand Eagles for their community service, there's a lot to be proud of. We've also secured a \$2.2 million grant to help students from rural areas, showing our commitment to making education accessible for everyone. Our students are shining in science competitions, and we're welcoming new staff members who are here to help students reach their goals. Morehead State is more than just a university; it's a place where dreams are launched, leaders are nurtured, and we all work together to make a difference.

February 2024

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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 h.tuerk@moreheadstate.edu.

- Dr. Dan Connell's retirement reception will be held on Thursday, February 29th, 2pm-4pm in room 110 of the Educational Services Building, located on 627 East Main Street.

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.



Diane Adkins

Job Title: AA- College of Science

Reason for Nomination: Diane is always helpful and friendly. She goes above and beyond for Morehead State University. Even during stressful times, she is pleasant. Thank you Diane!



Elizabeth Brewer

Job Title: ADS- Nursing

Reason for Nomination: Elizabeth is an asset to Morehead State University. She is always helpful and goes above and beyond. Thank you Elizabeth!



Nominee Name: Risa Boyd

Job Title: Executive Assistant to the Provost

I followed Risa as an Academic Advisor in the College of Education and was overwhelmed with questions as well as concerns, and still am after a few months. I don't email or call her daily but it's very frequent that I have a question(s) and she is always eager and uplifting to help. She is such a valuable asset to MSU and shows so much compassion for the students. I am so appreciative of her and the help as well as guidance she offers. Thank you Risa, you are my superhero!

Staff Congress Meeting Summary

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

President Xavier Scott reported:

- Attended the Faculty Senate meeting on 2/1. The next meeting is on 2/15.
- Staff Congress Committees determined our current membership numbers, and we are aligned with other University Staff Congress bodies in Kentucky.

Vice-President Jamey Carver reported:

- The Morehead State Eagles will host a Staff Congress Night on Thursday, February 8, 2024. For more information contact Jamey Carver.

Benefits & Compensation (B&C) Committee Chair Rianna Robinson reported:

No Report

Credentials & Elections (C&E)

No Report

Director of Human Resources Report Dr. Caroline reported:

No Report

Cabinet Report Mary Fister-Tucker reported:

- The City of Morehead did not continue to lease Laughlin Gym.
- Campus improvements
 - upgrades to the school's current Wi-Fi systems
 - improvements to several sidewalks around campus
 - multiple new roofs and renovations to the gaming lounge and post office in ADUC
 - Funds for these projects included budgeting, private gifts, and state funding including a \$20 million Asset Preservation Fund in the 2022-23 academic year, with another \$20 million for the 2023-24 academic year.
- Annual Budget TBA.

Staff Concerns

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

Comment/Concern	Response
<p>As discussed in Staff Congress Meeting today, I. There is a need for faculty/staff training on SharePoint and the OneDrive system from basic to advanced. If this is supposed to be the new system to replace the M Drive, we need adequate training to continue effectiveness/productivity before the cyber attack. There are also issues with sharing files with individuals on a mass scale. We work with students to give them feedback on resumes and STAR reflections as part of class assignments, but we cannot share these files easily with a large group due to FERPA concerns. If we were to share the folder itself, there's no way to individualize file preferences. If we were to download the files to our computers themselves, we have issues with it trying to automatically sync to our individual OneDrive work account. There's seemingly no way to use the computer as a system to store files without it being uploaded to the cloud. 2. Many staff are concerned with our new systems being less secure than before. If you log in to a computer in a different part of campus, you are still logging into your account with access to all personal files (without having to log in to your email/outlook). Somehow, files are being downloaded to the computer itself when accessing/opening them from an individual user's account. Some SharePoint sites are publicly accessible and can be searched for on the SharePoint home page. This means that files and other proprietary information can be access if the sites are not set up properly. I think this points back to the first issue described in this entry (lack of training across the organization). 3. Student Printing is an issue for student workers. Senator Flora said this issue may be resolved at the</p>	<p>69.1 OneDrive is not always intuitive and, in some cases, it is not the best tool for certain applications. That being said, OneDrive is the approved method to store and share data. OIT does not currently offer training for Microsoft applications. We deploy these applications using Microsoft standards so any help video that is available at learn.microsoft.com will translate to the Morehead State environment. As for sharing files with large groups of people, Microsoft Teams is the best method to do that and is the technology that was used to replace the M Drive. It can be shared to large groups and access can be managed by departmental users, eliminating the need to have OIT staff involved when permissions are required to change. If you have any questions or need assistance with Teams and/or OneDrive, please contact the OIT Helpdesk and somebody can assist you.</p> <p>69.2 OneDrive is extremely secure as are our reimaged desktops. All systems are encrypted using a security token based on your individual credentials and thus even if the file “pointers” are on more computers, the ability to access them or decrypt them is greatly reduced. The old M drive was not encrypted at rest and permissions were at a root folder level. This level of permission provided large scale access to information. Today, your data is both encrypted at rest and in transit and that is inherently more secure.</p> <p>69.3 Ricoh is our printing partner and is ultimately responsible for the student printing experience. We continue to work with them on the student experience and how to capture the charges associated with Student Printing. I will relay on the concerns about the student experience.</p>

<p>end of the calendar year, but it should still be on the radar of staff congress.</p>	
<p>What is the point of paying for the reserved parking spots if someone parks in your spot and when we call the number to take care of it they send a police officer and they don't write a ticket or tow the car? The officer said there was an event on campus so they weren't going to ticket or tow it? The whole point of having a reserved spot, and paying way too much money, is to ensure we have a place to park at all times.</p>	<p>There are a couple situations in which this or something similar might occur. It's possible the individual called in on a SOAR day and we'd prefer not to tow a vehicle on that date. Also, events with 300 attendees have taken place on campus and it's been virtually impossible to impound every illegally parked vehicle. If the reserved space owner has a place to park (#00 space), it is a temporary solution until we can rectify it. . If someone encounters a similar situation, please contact Joe Stiltner (Parking Supervisor) at (606)783-2220 to discuss.</p>
<p>What is the status of MSU's strategic plan? The current one was set to expire recently - https://www.moreheadstate.edu/about-msu/leadership/ppe/strategic-plan/. It's important that we know this to make departmental plans for the future that align with MSU's strategic plan.</p>	<p>On December 2, 2021, our Board of Regents voted to extend our Strategic plan until 2025. With the transition to the new website platform, it appears the note regarding the extension of the plan was lost in the move. I have copied April Nutter to make her aware so she can get the site updated</p>
<p>Would you please bring up the sick leave bank UAR. I really believe that the 6 vs 12 weeks of maternity leave should be revised. I think that the second 6 weeks (bonding) should be sick leave bank usable. I also believe that we should be allowed to donate days to people who may need it. (There will need to be a cap).</p>	<p>Reviewing this policy</p>
<p>Our network does not seem capable of handling VoIP phones. Since early December, multiple staff in our office have experienced dropped calls, phones in an endless loop of registration in progress or entering preservation mode during a call (which does not seem to preserve the call). It is embarrassing and unprofessional to be on your office phone with an external partner and have the call dropped. When calling the IT helpdesk to enter a ticket to have this resolved, I was told that it was a network issue and nothing could be done. This doesn't seem like an acceptable answer.</p>	<p>During the month of November and early December the team was fielding lots of complaints about dropping calls, phones, and general internet usage. This was confirmed to be caused by several "bridging loops" found on the network. What is a bridging loop? If you plug a phone into the wall using both ports this will bridge the voice network to the data network and this results in poor performance while the loop is active. It could also be caused by a divertive cable or an improperly installed wi-fi router like something that is in your home. Overall, it is very much like feedback at a concert. The more feedback, the louder the feedback is. When the loops are active, they continue to get stronger, flooding the network with packets which ultimately overwhelms the network switches at the top of the stack and drops all the traffic. These problems were being masked by changes that were made during</p>

	<p>the cyber event. Those items were finally confirmed, and the loops were eliminated. At this point, the network is working as expected and much, if not all, of the tickets related to the issues have stopped coming in. More importantly, the user base is reporting that the phones, wireless access points and general internet usage is considerably better after the Christmas holiday break.</p>
<p>MSU needs to develop adequate, flexible work from home policies. With the changes happening across campus, whether related to technology or infrastructure upgrades, many staff run the risk of displacement for a period. This can be a recruiting strategy for young professionals join the faculty and staff of MSU. Examples of remote work policies and other related ideas can be found at the following link from NASPA. https://www.naspa.org/blog/remote-work-and-higher-education</p>	<p>Received, reviewing this with CFO Mary Fister - Tucker</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 Helisha Tuerk @ h.tuerk@moreheadstate.edu

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