



That's a successful 2023 Homecoming in the wrap! See more Homecoming photos on [PhotoShelter](#) and the [Doane Alumni Flickr](#).

Staff Council

Doane University Staff Council Monthly Newsletter
October 2023

Updates

Doane's Board of Trustees met the week of Oct. 2 — and members of Staff Council joined them in committee sessions, where we asked your questions and made note of decisions that affect staff. While we can't share everything (the committee meetings can include sensitive information) we *are* compiling a cohesive document with answers to your contributed questions to share in our November update.

With the recent decision to outsource Doane's custodial services some Staff Council members have been questioned if this decision was vetted through the Shared Governance ARC - Approve, Recommend, Consult - process. The answer is yes. Staff Council Chair Brandon Rieschick and Chair-elect Brad Jenny, as well as Faculty Council's chairs, were consulted about the decision to make this change prior to it being announced.

Any staff who have questions about the ARC Matrix can reach out to Quinn Stryker or Denise Ellis as they are the designated staff representatives on the University Shared Governance Committee (USGC).

On this — with the reduction in members of Group 1, Staff Council will likely need to amend our bylaws so that groups remain similar in size. We want our representation to be consistent. And having more people in each group ensures that feedback can't be directly attributed to specific staff members. For now, members of Group 1 can share feedback with our At-Large representatives or chairs.

We're considering an all staff assembly and want your thoughts! Before the start of the academic year, Faculty Council leads Fall Faculty Days, which includes presentations on different subjects. We want to know — is there something you can speak to that would benefit all staff members? Is there something you want to know more about?

October Events

University Townhall
Tuesday, Oct. 24
11 a.m.
Join in-person in Heckman Auditorium in Crete or via [Zoom](#). President Hughes will share key updates from the Board of Trustees meeting and CFO Linda Scholting will provide a financial update.

Family Weekend
Friday, Oct. 27 thru
Sunday, Oct. 29
Events scheduled all day at various locations on the Crete campus.

Men's Basketball Exhibition Games
Sunday, Oct. 29 — 5 p.m.
Pinnacle Bank Arena
Vs. the University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Monday, Nov. 6 — 7:30 p.m.
Baxter Arena
Vs. the University of Nebraska at Omaha

Costumes & Cocktails
Monday, Oct. 30 — LNK
3:30-5 p.m. in the Fred Brown Welcome Center
Tuesday, Oct. 31 — CRETE
3:30-5 p.m. in the Art/Ed Welcome Center
Events sponsored by HR — prizes for funniest, scariest and best Doane "spirit" costumes!

Flu Shot Clinic
Monday, Nov. 13
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Nyrop Hall in Perry Campus Center, Crete



Meet a member of Staff Council

Meet Liz McCue, she/her, Group 3 rep and vice chair for communications. Liz has been at Doane for 2.5 years in the Office of Strategic Marketing. Prior to her time at Doane, she worked at a marketing agency and at four daily papers across Nebraska. She's also a freelance journalist and photographer — one of her images will be featured in the December issue of *The New Territory* magazine. Liz will celebrate four years of the marriage thing with her partner, Michael, this month and might actually share wedding photos this year. The large boi in her photo? That's Yuri, their five-year-old brown tabby! His favorite toy is a tube of chapstick.

Good to know!

Do you have Direct Loan Program loans from receiving a college degree?

Working at Doane *may* qualify you to receive Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF). This forgiveness program is open to employees at non-profit organizations who have already made 120 qualifying repayments — and Doane is a 501(c)3 non-profit!

Get additional details and find out if you're eligible: <https://studentaid.gov/pslf/>

FAFSA has been simplified! Now how does this affect our students?

Normally, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) becomes available Oct. 1 each year, but the 2024-25 FAFSA will be available by the *end of December 2023*. In short, the [FAFSA Simplification Act](#) also streamlines the application itself, and changes how a student's family size is determined to align it more with what is reported on the student/parents tax returns.

Doane University fact



Did you know that Doane students in Crete organize a massive Relay for Life event each spring? The fundraiser is getting back on its feet after the pandemic and we're looking for more staff to join the cause. There aren't many of us who haven't been affected by cancer, you know?

You can join the [Doane University Staff](#) team, or recognize one of our own by joining [Angie's Squad](#), in honor of Angie Klasek, who passed away last year after 40 years at Doane.

Additional Resources

Interested in learning more about leadership? The American Council on Education has made recordings available from its [Women's Leadership Speaker Series](#), with the latest "Women in Leadership and Their Well-Being" held on Oct. 5.

STAFF COUNCIL MISSION STATEMENT

We pledge to work in partnership with Doane faculty, students, the Leadership Team and the Board of Trustees to enrich the culture of Doane staff by supporting an inclusive, inviting and equitable community. Staff Council serves as a communication conduit between staff and administration. Staff Council commmits to providing a voice for staff to formulate and endorse recommendations for action to improve the work environment, opportunities, policies and procedures for the betterment of the Doane community.

Your 2023-24 Representatives

- Brandon Rieschick** — Chair
 - Brad Jenny** — Chair Elect
 - Miranda Henderson** — Secretary/Treasurer
 - Liz McCue** — Vice Chair of Communications
 - Kaleb Arterburn** — Vice Chair of Staff Recognition
 - Shalea Wood-Akers** — Vice Chair of Staff Development/Events/Services
 - Denise Ellis** — *Co-Champion*
 - Kerry Beezley** — *Co-Champion*
 - Jenei Skillett** — *Liaison to the Leadership Team*
- TBA** — Group 1: Maintenance, Facilities, Grounds, Events
 - Marie Knapp** — Group 2: Academic Support, Advising, Library, Registrar, Institutional Research, Campus Directors, Faculty Secretaries
 - Liz McCue** — Group 3: Instructional Design, Open Learning Academy, Information Technology, Service Center, Human Resources, Business Office, Student Accounts, Safety Office, Marketing
 - Mike Sebaaly** — Group 4: Athletics
 - Stephanie Hemje** — Group 5: Admissions, Enrollment, Career and Leadership, Diversity Equity & Inclusion, Financial Aid, Veterans Affairs, Residence Life and Education, Counseling, Nurse, International Students, Advancement, Alumni
 - Kelsee Dunn & Mellanie Gilroy** — At-Large; Non-residential programs in Lincoln, Omaha, online and/or graduate programs

