

# NDSU STAFF SENATE MESSENGER



Volume 5, Issue 1

[www.ndsu.edu/staff\\_senate](http://www.ndsu.edu/staff_senate)

October 2008



## Greetings from your Staff Senate President

*by Vance Olson*

Is the work we do at NDSU important? Yes! Whatever it is you do, your job is important. Your work is an ongoing task that makes this campus community a great success. It is team work done by individuals, like you, which helps drive NDSU to higher standards.

This year we have more than 13,000 students at NDSU. Each one is an individual. Each one is important. Yes, they are just like you and I, individuals and important.

I came on campus the weekend many of our students moved back to start or continue their studies at our great University. Wow, what a monumental task that is for our entire campus community to accomplish! Every one of us had a vital part to play. All the little accomplishments came together to make it happen. Think about what you did. It did make a difference!

Now, if that were the end of the story, our work would be done. Happily, that isn't the case. Our work continues every day of the year. We strive to make things continue to work and we look for ways to make them work better or more efficiently. We make a difference every day. We make things work.

We are an involved group of staff. We interact with each other on a daily basis. One of the best ways to keep your involvement level very high is through your organization of NDSU Staff Senate. Your Senate is a means to contribute to your campus community and to help make decisions that affect us all. We seek out ways to engage our campus community of students, faculty and staff and alumni. We educate, we inform, we learn and we get involved.

We are NDSU Staff. We are important. We do things because we care. Get involved!



## Staff Senate Enters Float In Homecoming Parade

*By Robin Davis  
"The Float Master"*



The theme of this years Homecoming Parade was Roughin' It. Our float was a flash back to the 1950's and was made of items from that era (including myself and Vance). That was the good old days when we "watched" the games on the radio. The closest thing to a computer was an adding machine and the closest thing to a cell phone was a hard line rotary dial "party line" phone. To have to go back to those days for most of us would be Roughin' It!

Thank you to all the people who helped with the float.

**Construction:** Barb Geeslin, Annette Sprague, Vance Olson, Tanie Boeddeker and Robin Davis

**Parade:** Connie Jadry, Lorna Olsen, Kay Sizer, Laura Dallmann, Barb Geeslin, Vance Olson, Robin Davis, Mykel Baxter (honorary NDSU Staff Senator/my foster son).



President Chapman

## Professional Development Grants Available

by Chris Winjum

NDSU staff members are encouraged to take advantage of opportunities for professional development.

The NDSU Office of the President is once again accepting proposals for professional development grants of up to \$1,000 to be used for travel to a professional conference.

Full-time staff members not on probation as well as faculty members are eligible to receive one of these grants during the fiscal year. Applications must be received by May 31, 2009, and travel must be completed by June 30, 2009.

To request this grant, submit a one page proposal prior to the travel describing the conference and how it will enhance your professional development. Include the location, dates, and a breakdown of the anticipated expenses. Do not send any additional paperwork. Your request must be pre-approved by both your department head or supervisor, and your dean or director before submission to the President's office.

After a request is approved and the travel is completed, one must forward a completed Travel Expense Voucher and/or Accounts Payable Voucher to the President's office for funding. It will then be forwarded to Accounting for payment. Existing accounting guidelines must be followed for reimbursements.

Questions should be directed to Cathy or Stephanie in the President's Office at 231-8522.

# Congratulations!

## CAMPUS KUDOS RECIPIENTS

Campus Kudos is a certificate of appreciation for student workers, staff, and faculty. Staff Senate sponsors this program to encourage NDSU employees to recognize co-workers when they exhibit one or more of the following valued behaviors: customer service, continuous improvement, teamwork, integrity, and quality. Campus Kudos recipients receive \$5.00 in gift certificates, which may be redeemed at either the Minard Hall or Memorial Union Coffee Carts (sponsored by President Chapman). Campus Kudos recipient photos are displayed in the FLC corridor of the Memorial Union. Submit nominations via the Staff Senate Web site.



**Janalee Brandt**

Business Manager  
Distance & Continuing Ed

*"Janalee went way out beyond the call of duty when the scholarship committee asked her to help with the scholarship preparation. She pretty much handled it all. The Chairperson could not have done this job without her, and he appreciates all her efforts and patience."*



**Lori Peterson**

Administrative Secretary  
Deans Office, Pharmacy, N & AS

*"Lori is such a delight to work with and is always going that extra mile for students, as well as faculty and staff. No matter how busy she is she always has time to help you and make sure you have what you need. She is always happy and she has such a great sense of humor. Lori is truly deserving of this award."*



**Julian Thompson**

Custodian  
Facilities Management

*"Julian Thompson is a bright spot in my day. He is the custodian in our building, Sudro Hall. Every day he stops by to say hello. He always has a smile on his face regardless of what is going on. On two separate occasions just this week I have come into work with full hands, and Julian jumped in on both occasions to unlock my office for me so that I wouldn't have to set my bags down to dig for my keys. He is kind, thoughtful, sincere, helpful, and I look forward to seeing him at work each and every day!"*

## The Staff Senate Committee Report

by Tanie Boeddeker



The Program Committee has scheduled a few presenters for future meetings. Dr. Joseph Chapman will be the presenter for the November meeting. In December, Ray Boyer will be talking about the Campus Emergency Notification System.

The Election Committee reports that they have been quite busy this year already. Empty positions have been filled with May 2008 election alternates and elections for other positions were held at the October meeting. As May of 2009 approaches, all staff that are interested in becoming part of Staff Senate will be encouraged to nominate themselves, or have someone else nominate them for a senator position in their band.



The Staff Development Committee has a few Discover U "Mini" Workshops coming up in November and December. "Digital Photography Tips" is the topic for the November 12<sup>th</sup> workshop, and it will be held in the Century Theatre at 10:00am. The December 10<sup>th</sup> workshop will be "Unique Gift

Wrapping Ideas," which will also be held in the Century Theatre at 10:00am. If you have suggestions or topics you would like to see for the Discover U "Mini" Workshops, please contact Pam Hommen at 231-7014, Connie Jadrny at 231-9738 or any Staff Development Committee member.

The Scholarship Committee will begin reviewing the scholarship applications for the NDSU Staff Senate Scholarships when applications are due during the Spring semester. The committee will select the recipients prior to the Fall 2009 semester.



The Bylaws Committee has been working on putting together language based on the charges they received during the monthly Staff Senate meetings as well as the Executive Committee meetings. They will review the current bylaws to correct discrepancies and remove inconsistent language. In addition, they also want to be responsive to any potential changes that might be sent to them for review and/or proposed language. By the end of this Staff Senate term, it is their goal to have a clean, updated bylaws that will meet the needs of the Staff Senate into the future.

The Legislative Committee will begin meeting on a regular basis after January 6<sup>th</sup>, when the legislative session begins. The Legislative Committee keeps the Staff Senate body informed about legislative activity, emphasizing on the issues that affect higher education and NDSU staff.



The Public Relations Committee is working on the Staff Senate Messenger. This committee has also done some limited work and planning with the web designer regarding updating the Staff Senate Website.



## NDSU Staff Senate is Looking for You

by Barb Geeslin

You could be representing your fellow staff in our NDSU Staff Senate. We currently have three openings for one year member-at-large positions from any of the employee bands represented by Staff Senate (1000/3000, 4000, 5000, 6000/7000) Please check with your supervisor about this opportunity. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact (or encourage them to) anyone of these people for further information:

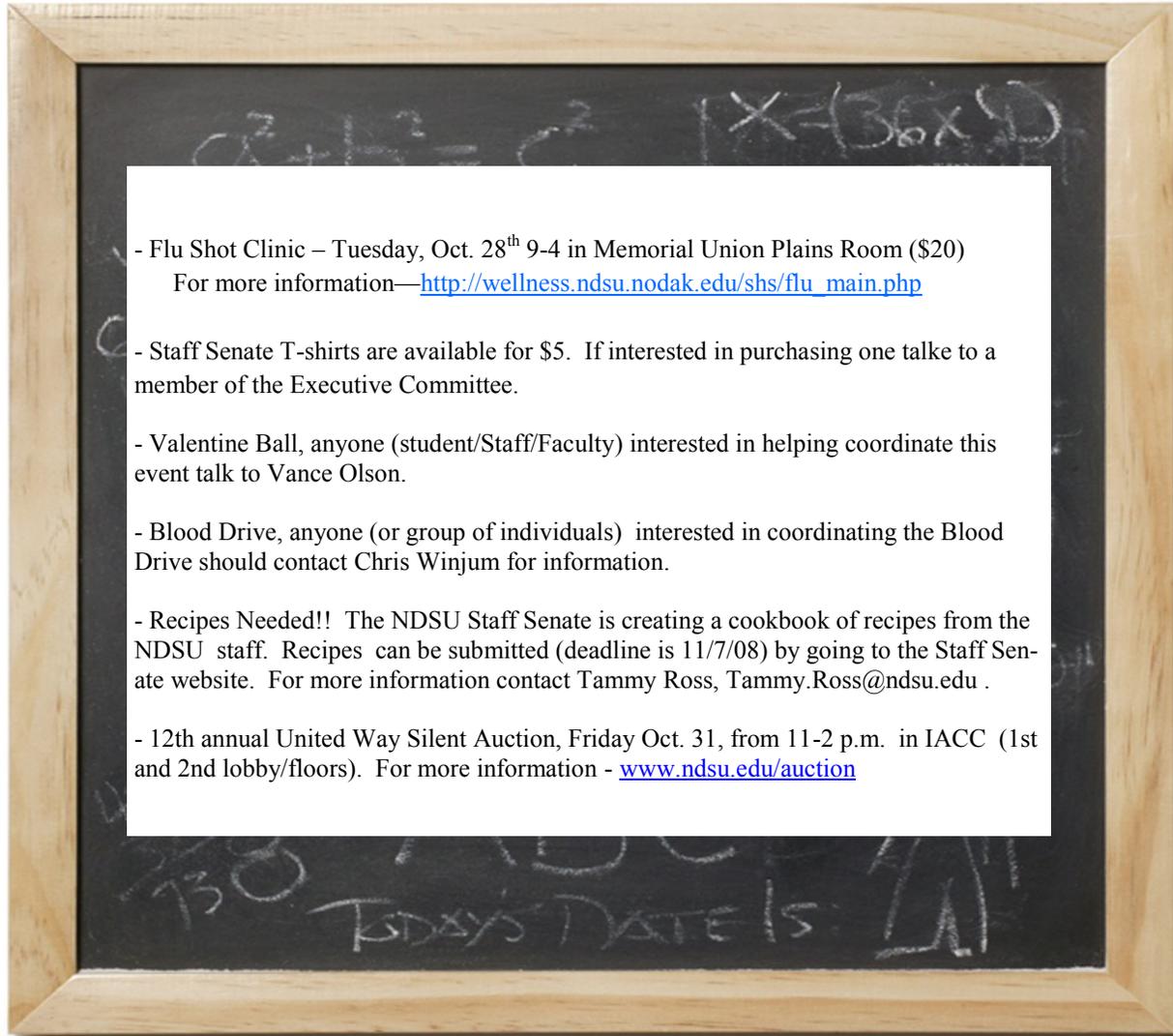
Membership Officer: Heather Heger, Heather.Heger@ndsu.edu or 231-8293

Vance Olson, President: Vance.Olson@ndsu.edu or 231-9661

Barb Geeslin, Election Committee Chair: Barb.Geeslin@ndsu.edu or 231-8805

Staff Senate is a great way to serve the university, while meeting some wonderful people from across campus. The NDSU Staff Senate is comprised of 5 percent of the regular, benefited employees elected at large. Senators are normally elected for terms of two years, with approximately half of the Senators elected each year. For more information, visit the Staff Senate Web site at [http://www.ndsu.edu/staff\\_senate](http://www.ndsu.edu/staff_senate). **Get involved!**

## The Message Board



- Flu Shot Clinic – Tuesday, Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> 9-4 in Memorial Union Plains Room (\$20)  
For more information—[http://wellness.ndsu.nodak.edu/shs/flu\\_main.php](http://wellness.ndsu.nodak.edu/shs/flu_main.php)
- Staff Senate T-shirts are available for \$5. If interested in purchasing one talk to a member of the Executive Committee.
- Valentine Ball, anyone (student/Staff/Faculty) interested in helping coordinate this event talk to Vance Olson.
- Blood Drive, anyone (or group of individuals) interested in coordinating the Blood Drive should contact Chris Winjum for information.
- Recipes Needed!! The NDSU Staff Senate is creating a cookbook of recipes from the NDSU staff. Recipes can be submitted (deadline is 11/7/08) by going to the Staff Senate website. For more information contact Tammy Ross, [Tammy.Ross@ndsu.edu](mailto:Tammy.Ross@ndsu.edu).
- 12th annual United Way Silent Auction, Friday Oct. 31, from 11-2 p.m. in IACC (1st and 2nd lobby/floors). For more information - [www.ndsu.edu/auction](http://www.ndsu.edu/auction)

### THE MESSENGER

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Staff Senate Public Relations Committee.  
Editor: Chris Winjum

#### **NDSU Staff Senate Mission:**

*NDSU Staff Senate addresses the needs  
and aspirations of university staff by promoting  
a progressive campus environment.*



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### *Staff Senate Meetings*

9:30 am – 10:30 am

**All staff are welcome!**

- November 5** Memorial Union Plains Room  
Joseph A. Chapman  
NDSU President
- December 3** Memorial Union Plains Room  
Ray Boyer  
Director, Univ Police and Safety

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