

Annual Report

Staff Advisory Council

Academic Year 2023-2024

**Staff Advisory
Council**

SAC@nau.edu
in.nau.edu/sac/

WHO WE ARE

Northern Arizona University's Staff Advisory Council provides a forum for discussing the role of staff, and for understanding, sharing, and supporting staff interests throughout the university community. The Staff Advisory Council serves as a conduit for communication and information exchange between staff and executive leadership on existing and proposed policies, procedures, and programs that impact or interest staff. The Staff Advisory Council also provides and fosters opportunities for community outreach, staff engagement, and professional growth.

SAC COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

The 20th annual Warm Clothing and Food Drive

This year's drive, in partnership with the Center for Service and Volunteerism, was a huge success, and we want to thank everyone who donated and helped sort the items. We collected 301 food items, 85 miscellaneous kitchen supplies for Louie's Cupboard, and 1,143 warm coats and other clothing items for the Lumberjack CARE Center and local community organizations that support people experiencing homelessness or who are otherwise in need of clothing. In addition, we helped build 63 bikes for children in foster care in partnership with Arizona Helping Hands.

Special thanks to the SAC team who made this event possible this year: Erin Kruse, Melinda Marquardt, Ken Olsen, Rolonda Jumbo, Mike Bouck, Kiara Lewis, and Angel Ramirez. And a special shout out to Stephanie Del Giorgio for being our liaison with Arizona Helping Hands.

SAC gives back

\$3,500+ donated to youth in the Coconino CASA for Kids program by NAU staff.

1,100+ warm clothing items donated to local charities. **63** bikes built.

\$2,200 raised for the Employee Lumberjack Fund (ELF) from **33** gifts.

SAC represents

Sits on **16** commissions and committees.

Serves on **3** university advisory boards.

Hosted **34** guest speakers from across campus in AY23-24.

SAC COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS CONTINUED

Giving Tree Project

Coconino CASA for Kids (CCFK) exists to serve and improve the lives of abused, neglected, and abandoned children, youth, and young adults of Coconino County. This year over 60 donors, including a whole department and an Aerobic Winter Challenge team, provided a total of 83 gifts to 30 youth currently in foster care in Coconino County. An additional 22 gift cards were donated at a total value of \$830. These cards will impact youth who enter foster care in coming weeks and months.

Special thanks to Rolanda Jumbo, Ken Olsen, Stephanie Chapa Del Giorgio, and Lissa Gallegos.

City of Flagstaff Open Space Clean-up

SAC and the Center for Service and Volunteerism combined forces once again in April to coordinate an Earth Day project with the City of Flagstaff. Together we recruited 40 volunteers, most of them NAU staff members, to build a half mile of fire line on Observatory Mesa in the heart of Flagstaff. This project helped educate the volunteers about the work wildland fire crews do to protect the community and gave them an opportunity to directly contribute to reduce wildfire risk. The fire line was put to good use the following month during a prescribed burn.



SAC SUBCOMMITTEES

Service and Volunteer Engagement

As seen with our highlighted community service projects, the service and volunteer engagement committee has been busy hosting a number of events to support the NAU and Flagstaff communities. The committee is working to provide more opportunities for staff to use their community engagement hours this summer, including an open space project and organizing shifts at the Flagstaff Family Food Center and High Country Humane.

SAC Mixer and Fundraising

The mixer and fundraising committee put together another wonderful annual mixer attended by 500+ staff at Flagstaff Mountain Campus, North Valley, Tucson, and Yuma. The committee also expanded its scope to enhance SAC's fundraising efforts to provide financial support to staff. SAC participated in its first Giving Day, raising \$2,200 to support the Employee Lumberjack Fund (ELF), which provides emergency funds for staff experiencing a crisis or unforeseen circumstance.



SAC SUBCOMMITTEES CONTINUED

Community Building

The community building committee's focus is to help staff throughout the university feel connected and supported. This year's focus was creating better connections with our statewide campuses. NAU Yuma, Tucson, and North Valley now participate in SAC meetings through watch parties and joined the Flagstaff Mountain campus in celebrating staff during the annual mixer. The committee is also exploring how to launch staff clubs through True Blue Connects. Look for our first staff interest club in July, the NAU Staff and Faculty AV Club!

Survey and Feedback

As an off-year for the biannual survey, the survey and feedback committee created other ways to keep in touch with staff needs, concerns, and celebrations. The committee launched monthly pulse checks with a variety of questions to help SAC understand where to focus and explore opportunities that are important to staff. The committee also created Lumberjack Spirit nominations where colleagues and supervisors celebrated the accomplishments of staff throughout the university.

STAY INVOLVED

Are you interested in the work the above committees are doing? Consider joining as all staff are encouraged to participate.

We will also host our first meeting of the 2024-2025 academic year on the morning of August 15. All staff are invited to attend, in person or virtually. Meeting time and locations will be shared closer to the date.

Watch for our newsletter as SAC is planning multiple service and engagement opportunities over the summer.

As always, for information or questions on any of the above, please email us at SAC@nau.edu

SAC MEETING SPEAKERS

August 17, 2023 - University Union, Grand Canyon Room

- Justin Mallet - VP for Inclusive Excellence
- Dawn Clifford - U.C.A.N.: University Coaching for Activity and Nutrition

September 21, 2023 - Babbitt Administrative Center, Room 206

- Anika Olsen - Access to Excellence (A2E), VP for Enrollment Management
- Heather Nash - Employee Assistance and Wellness, Director
- Carrie Bieging and Eva Johnson - Lumberjacks Thrive, Alumni Engagement
- President Cruz Rivera

October 19, 2023 - International Pavilion

- Cristy Salanga - NSF Innovation Corps (I-Corps), NAU Patent Manager
- Laura Umphrey and KT Thompson - Ombuds Office
- Meagan Decker and team - Benefits overview
- Lissa Gallegos - International Pavilion information

November 16, 2023 - School of Hotel and Restaurant Management, Fireplace Lounge

- Mike Bouck - Giving Tree, Service and Volunteer Engagement
- Mark Molinaro - Executive Director of the School of Hotel & Restaurant Management
- Rebecca Cirzan - Early Learning Development Center
- Stephanie Chapa Del Giorgio - University Budget Advisory Board update

January 18, 2023 - School of Communication, Advanced Media Lab,

- Megan Cunningham - University Budget 101
- Michelle Parker - Office of the General Counsel
- Graham Hagerty - Digital Recreation and Esports

February 15th, 2024 - Cline Library, Learning Studio

- Rebecca Harner - Library Space and Resources
- Marcela Pino Alcaraz - RAISE Initiative
- Castel Green and team - Student Service Center
- Blue Brazelton - Generative AI lesson, Professor in College of Education

March 21st, 2024 - Du Bois, Aspen C

- Michelle Gardner - Advisors, FSL and Leadership and Engagement
- Debra Floyd - Giving Day
- Melissa Griffin - Live Well NAU
- Mike Bouck - Service and Engagement Earth Day Clean up
- Abraham "Avi" Henn - Office of Sustainability

April 18th, 2024 - University Union, Grand Canyon Room

- M. Lee Griffin - Employee Development Days, Asst. Director, Learning & Development
- Angie Elgin - Campus Recreation Summer Camps, Campus Recreation
- Josh Mackey - Updates from Human Resources, VP for Human Resources
- John Georgas and Roger Bounds - Faculty and Staff Connection, Vice Provosts for Academic Affairs
- Megan Proctor - Updates to new student orientation, Enrollment Management

Thank you to all our speakers!



Voting Members 2023-2024

McKenzie McLoughlin, President – Marketing
Sarah Negovan, Vice President – Admissions Processing
Maria Galvez, Secretary – Office of the Provost
Katie Hill, Communications Liaison – Human Resources
River Olsen, Classified Staff Representative – Admissions Processing
Bekka Alvarado, Service Professional Representative – Campus Living
Sheila Anders – Center for International Education
Mike Bouck – Employee Assistance and Wellness
Cheyenne Carpenter – Undergraduate Research
Michelle Cook – Center for Health Equity Research
Danielle Contreras – Enrollment and Student Services
Beth Cross – School of Nursing
Stephanie Del Giorgio – Office of the Provost
Brenna Duke – Athletics
Jerry Gile – Teaching and Learning Center
Hannah Haage – Admissions and Enrollment Services
Kiara Lewis – Office of Sponsored Projects
Tanner Maher – Advising
Melinda Marquardt – Center for International Education
Ken Olsen – Fleet Services
Cate Pinckney – COE: Educational Psychology
Theresa Rogers – AA Business Analysts
Judith Scholar Winfield – Planning, Design, and Construction
Erin Stam – University Transit Services

