November Council Meeting

Professional and Scientific Council general meeting:
Thursday, November 5, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held online via Webex (follow prompts)
Meeting number: 120 412 2288
Password: ThWTx2AwJ34
Join by phone: +1-312-535-8110 United States Toll (Chicago)
Access code: 120 931

The meeting is open to all Professional and Scientific employees.

Save the date for the first-ever virtual Professional and Scientific Council Professional Development Experience!

SAVE THE DATE! → February 25, 2021

Our 2021 theme, Cultivate Your Adventure: Growing Through Change, highlights the direction of this year's Professional Development Conference to planning and providing a virtual experience for Professional and Scientific employees this year.

Join us for a unique professional development experience February 25 on a computer near you! Watch the Professional and Scientific Council social media and website for more details!

November Council Seminar Series event - Managing the Impact of Caregiving on Your Career

Join us virtually November 10, 2-3 p.m., when Malisa Rader and Barbara Dunn-Swanson, Education Extension Specialists with Human Sciences Extension and Outreach, will discuss how caregiving can impact your career and how best to manage it.

To protect the health of attendees and presenters, this fall's Seminar Series events will be hosted online. Please join us from the comfort of your office or home through Adobe Connect. If you are unable to join us November 10, the recorded session will be posted in Learn@ISU approximately one week after the livestreamed session.

Find additional information about the Council Seminar Series.
December Council Seminar Series event - Building Partnerships through the PiE Framework

Learn about PiE - Partners in Education - in the December council Seminar Series event. Join us online December 8, 2-3 p.m. when Maureen Griffin, program specialist in biotechnology, and Eric Hall, professional development consultant for Iowa State University, will discuss how to use the PiE framework to build new relationships between institutions of higher education and local communities.

A link to the livestream will be posted in the December council newsletter. If you are unable to join us December 8, the recorded session will be posted in Learn@ISU approximately one week after the live session.

Learn more about the Council Seminar Series.

In case you missed it: You can renew or modify your COVID-19 Alternative Work Arrangement

If you've been working from home this semester with a COVID-19 Alternative Work Arrangement (AWA) through University Human Resources, you now have the opportunity to renew it to extend through June 30, 2021, or to make modifications in it - with the assistance of your supervisor.

In June of 2020, University Human Resources provided the means for employees who are at high risk for contracting COVID-19, or live with someone who is, to request an AWA that allows working from home.

On September 30 an email was sent to affected employees and their supervisors offering to extend or modify the arrangement. On October 5 a link to a Qualtrics survey to extend or modify the AWA was sent. Either the employee or the employee's supervisor may request a modification to the arrangement. The employee may also request to extend the AWA with no modifications. Either way, both you AND your supervisor must complete the survey by December 1, 2020. In the event of a requested modification, a member of University Human Resources will contact you and your supervisor.

No medical documentation is required to request a renewal or modification of the AWA.

If the survey is not completed by December 1, it will be assumed that the current AWA will be allowed to expire December 31, 2020.

If you have not yet completed the survey, you are urged to look up the email from September 30 and link from October 5. Or, you can find a link to submit a request, and other helpful documents, including an FAQ sheet, on the University Human Resources website.

2020 CYtation Award nominations are open!
You can nominate an individual or team for a 2020 CYtation Award! Submit a nomination using this form. Also, find additional information on these awards.

Did You Know? Interest groups allow employees to connect, discuss, share

Several employee interest groups have been active in the Iowa State University learning management system Canvas for the past year. Headed by volunteer facilitators, these groups enable employees to discuss topics they are interested in, such as books, gardening, and parenting.

During this time where many people work from home and limit interactions with their social circles, interest groups can be a valuable way to interact with other people interested in a particular hobby or lifestyle.

Points in the Adventure2 wellbeing program may soon be available for joining or facilitating an interest group.

Employees are welcome to suggest new topics for the formation of groups. Those who suggest new topics should consider becoming group facilitators. Duties involve adding people to the Canvas organization for the group and setting up discussion forums. To suggest a topic and volunteer as a facilitator, please contact the Professional and Scientific Council Peer Advocacy Committee at pands-pa@iastate.edu.

Highlighting ISU Staff: Heidi Doellinger

This month we recognize Heidi Doellinger, Director of Educator Preparation, School of Education.

Heidi was nominated by Lisa Woolery, who said: "The Educator Preparation Program at ISU recently underwent a review by the Iowa Department of Education. Though doing well is most definitely a team effort, Heidi did an exceptional job spearheading the project for more than 2 years and shepherding an excellent program report and site visit for a 12 member review team. We would not have fared as well as we did without the leadership, guidance and work she gave to the project."

Congratulations, Heidi, and thank you for all you do!

You can nominate a fellow Professional and Scientific employee (or team of employees) for Highlighting ISU Staff! It only takes a few minutes. Submit your nominations using the Highlighting ISU Staff form to tell us about a P&S employee or team doing great work in your area. The form will ask you to tell us about who you are highlighting and why in 100 words or less, and to include a picture of the person, team, or output for which they are being highlighted.
One submission will be regularly included in the newsletter as determined by the P&S Council Awards Committee. Other submissions will be featured on social media with the tag #highlightingISUstaff, on the P&S Council web page Highlighting ISU Staff, and/or included in future newsletters.

Sara Parris is the 2020-21 Professional and Scientific Council President.

Email President Sara Parris

Your Professional and Scientific Council representatives are here for you. Their names and contact information can be found on the Council Members page of our website.

Stay current with how Professional and Scientific Council works for you