

# IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY™

## Professional and Scientific Council

### September Council Meeting



**Professional and Scientific Council general meeting:  
Thursday, September 10, 2:10 - 4:00 p.m.**

The meeting will be held online via Webex (follow prompts)

Meeting number:

120 130 7134

Password: 2iXp5RPXNW7

Join by phone: +1-312-535-8110 United States Toll (Chicago)

Access code: 120 130 7134

The meeting is open to all Professional and Scientific employees.

### In case you missed it: Flex contributions can be changed due to COVID-19 pandemic



The COVID-19 pandemic has created significant personal budget challenges for some Iowa State employees.

The university has now announced a temporary policy change which will allow employees to adjust Flexible Spending Account (FSA) and Dependent Care Assistance Program (DCAP) contributions through December, 2020 for pandemic-related reasons.

Detailed information and links can be found in a story in the [September 3 issue](#) of Inside Iowa State.

### Did you know? Changes to Title IX policy requires mandatory online training by October 1

Based on changes the U.S. Department of Education has made regarding Title IX laws, educational institutions have been required to modify their policies and procedures to be in compliance.

Iowa State University now has a new Title IX Sexual Harassment, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, and Stalking policy, and a revised Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment policy. Both policies went into effect August 14, 2020.

The federal regulations include a narrower definition of Title IX sexual harassment and require the adoption of certain specific definitions of prohibited conduct. Other aspects of the regulations have also changed.



**What this means for Professional and Scientific employees :** As detailed in an email from the Iowa State Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) August 25, all Iowa State faculty and staff are required to complete new Title IX training via Learn@ISU by October 1, 2020. There are two training modules available - one for supervisors and one for non-supervisors, and you should

take the training most appropriate to your role.



**Please note:** Questions have been asked by employees who recently took the training if it is necessary for them to re-take it. The OEO has stated that **if you completed the course after August 10, 2020, it is not necessary to do a re-take. If you have not yet completed the course or completed it before August 10, 2020, you will need to complete the updated training due to the significant changes**

**in the Title IX regulations.**

To access the training:

- Login to [Learn@ISU](#)
- Select "My Requirements" from the "My Menu" dropdown
- Find learning track "EO Training" (you may also enter "Title IX" in the search bar menu)
- If you supervise employees, click on Launch for "Title IX Training - Supervisor"
- If you do NOT supervise employees, click on Launch for "Title IX Training - Non Supervisor"

It is only necessary to complete ONE of the trainings to be compliant - not both.

You'll find more information about the changes in Title IX policy in a Special Edition Title IX newsletter distributed by OEO via email August 24, or find it on the [News and Articles page](#) of the OEO web site.

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## September Seminar Series event: How to Engage Staff to Foster Positive Learning



Join us for the first **virtual** Professional and Scientific Council Seminar Series event **September 8, 2-3 p.m.**

Discover best practices for fostering positive learning through staff engagement. Instructional development specialists **Angela Braggs** and **Shawn Peterson** (Child Welfare Research and Training Project) will present techniques you can use to encourage staff interaction during your next team meeting or training, including tips for virtual events.

To protect the health of attendees and presenters, this fall's Seminar Series events will be hosted online via Adobe Connect. Please join us, from the comfort of your office or home, at this [link](#). If you are unable to join us September 8, the recorded session will be posted in Learn@ISU approximately one week after the livestreamed session.

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## Be a part of Professional and Scientific Council! Sign up as a substitute councilor



Professional and Scientific employees: You can play a part in Professional and Scientific Council as a council member substitute.

Council maintains a list of P&S employees who can be called upon when a regular council member is unable to take part in a general council meeting. Simply send an email to council's Representation Committee at [pands-r@iastate.edu](mailto:pands-r@iastate.edu) with your desire to be placed on the list.

Council general meetings are typically held the first Thursday of each month from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Currently, all meetings are held virtually via Webex, which makes taking part even easier.

As a council substitute, you are allowed to vote on any motions set forth in the meeting and any other functions that require a vote. If you have ever had the desire to explore Professional and Scientific Council and consider becoming a councilor making yourself available as a substitute can be a great first step!

## Highlighting ISU Staff: Jody Larson

This month we recognize **Jody Larson, Event Manager with Conference Planning and Management.**



Jody was nominated by Jennifer Vit, who said, "Jody is the consummate professional. She has been an event planner for 20 years and is instrumental to bringing large "mega events" to campus - events that provide great exposure to young people who may someday choose to adventure at ISU. These events also bring an external funding source to various university departments." Jennifer also said, "Jody has never met a stranger and her clients love her. She's a thoughtful communicator, organized (as all event planners are), an advocate for ISU Extension and Outreach as well as a great colleague."

***Congratulations, Jody, and thank you for all you do!***

You can nominate a fellow Professional and Scientific employee (or team of employees) for Highlighting ISU Staff! Submit your nominations using this [link](#) 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 #highlighting ISUstaff, 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 [here](#).



### **CYCLONES CARE**



**WEAR**  
A FACE COVERING



**DISTANCE**  
6 FEET (2M) APART



**WASH**  
YOUR HANDS OFTEN



**STAY HOME**  
IF YOU ARE ILL

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

*Stay current with how Professional and Scientific Council works for you*

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