March Council Meeting

Thursday, March 3, 2022
2:10 p.m.

The March general council meeting will be conducted as a hybrid event
- Join in-person: Sun Room, Memorial Union
- Join via Webex
- Join by phone: +1-312-535-8110 United States Toll (Chicago)
- Access code: 2624 419 8872

General meetings are open to all Professional and Scientific employees and the public.

Join P&S Council! Nominate yourself or a peer by March 4

Friday, March 4, 11:59 p.m. is the deadline for Professional and Scientific Council councilor nominations!

Take this opportunity to nominate yourself or a peer for the chance to have a voice in the decisions, events and activities that impact the more than 3,000 Iowa State University P&S employees.

During the past two pandemic-filled years Professional and Scientific Council has provided ISU leadership with direct input on many important topics such as the Classification and Compensation Review project, COVID-19 CyclonesCare pandemic policies, the implementation of the WorkFlex program, the need for more consistent and meaningful pay raises, input on applicants for important university positions and more. You can become a part of this process and be an advocate for the best interests of your fellow employees.

Iowa State University Senior Vice President and Provost Jonathan Wickert has said, "Councilors develop knowledge that is used to educate fellow employees, and encourage collaboration between departments through their new connections. This communication, collaboration and sharing of information benefits the entire university."

You can view letters in support of council from university leaders, view a video message from President Wendy Wintersteen and access the nomination form link on the P&S Council website.

P&S Council Meet & Greet: Join us for free fun and council information March 10!

All Iowa State Professional and Scientific employees are invited to bowl some frames and shoot some pool free of charge March 10,
you can become a councilor.

No R.S.V.P. is required.

“Due to the pandemic it’s been a while since we’ve been able to hold a casual event with our constituents. We invite P&S employees to take a winter break, enjoy some free bowling and pool on us and interact with our councilors who work hard to represent them,” said Professional and Scientific Council President Chris Johnsen.

We hope to see you March 10!

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**March Seminar Series Event: Navigating Student Loan Repayment as a Higher Education Professional**

With the pause on federal student loan repayment set to end May 1, many ISU Professional and Scientific employees may soon have an additional expense to manage.

Professional and Scientific Council invites you to join Chad Olson, Associate Director, Office of Student Financial Aid, and Isaac Ehlers, Financial Literacy Advisor, Office of Student Financial Success, March 8 at 2 p.m. to learn about the various federal student loan repayment programs and forgiveness options.

Chad and Isaac will go in-depth regarding the Income-Drive repayment plans, including Income-Based, Income-Contingent, Pay-as-you-Earn, and Revised Pay-as-you-Earn, will explore the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program, and will provide insight on completing the annual Employment Certification form and the Application for Forgiveness under PSLF. They will also review the Temporary Expanded Public Service Loan Forgiveness and the additional waiver which expires October 31, 2022.

This will be a hybrid event. You may attend in person in Room 3580 (formerly the Gallery Room), Memorial Union. or join via WebEx. Enter the event number and password in WebEx.

Event number: 2621 382 4453
Event password: 9hdFfaBde37 (9433223 from phones)
By phone, dial the event phone number and enter the access code: +1-312-535-8110 United States Toll (Chicago) Access code: 2621 382 4453

This seminar will also be posted on Learn@ISU at a later date.

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**April Seminar Series Event: What Not to Name Your Files**

Drowning in data? Immersed in images? Wallowing in Word documents? You’re not alone. If finding your digital things is more luck than logic then it might be time for a change.

Professional and Scientific Council invites you to join Megan O’Donnell, the data services librarian at the ISU Library, April 13 at 2 p.m. to learn how to organize and manage your data. This seminar will give a brief overview of how file and folder names affect our ability to find things, tips for establishing logical and intuitive systems, and what to never ever name your files.

This event will be held in a hybrid format. You may attend in person in Room 3580 (formerly the Gallery Room), Memorial Union. Information about how to join via WebEx will be shared on or before the date of this event. This seminar will also be posted on Learn@ISU at a later date.
Supervisor training course now available in Canvas; designed in part by P&S Council committee

The Professional and Scientific Council Policies & Procedures Committee is pleased to introduce a supervisor training course developed in partnership with the ISU Emerging Leaders Academy and graphic design students.

This course is open to everyone on campus who is interested in learning or reviewing key components you should be aware of as a supervisor at ISU. In this course you can find things like policies that impact you as well as links to several helpful resources ranging from hiring talented workers to maintaining a positive work environment to keep them in your employ.

Professional Development Conference is in the books! Be sure to share your experience with our survey

On Wednesday, February 23, we welcomed nearly 300 attendees to the Gateway Hotel and Conference Center for the Professional and Scientific Council Professional Development Conference, “Cultivate Your Adventure: Engage, Innovate, Evolve.”

Thank you to the participants, speakers, and committee members for making the 2022 Professional and Scientific Council Professional Development Conference a great success!

P&S employees were able to connect with each other, share their professional and personal development skills, engage in thought-provoking conversations, and open their minds to new ideas from national and Iowa State experts.

Participant surveys are out, and feedback is already being collected! The feedback will be analyzed and used to continue to offer valuable professional development opportunities for P&S employees in the future. If you attended the conference and have not yet completed your survey, please take time to share your feedback by 5 p.m. March 3.

Are you interested in joining the planning committee for next year’s conference? Please let us know by completing this Qualtrics Survey.

Did you know? Iowa State employees can receive discounts at participating businesses!

Everyone loves getting a deal, and it turns out that being an ISU employee can be a great way to get one!

There are many different businesses in Ames that offer ISU employees a form of discount.

The ISU Alumni Association does offer discounts at many businesses, but you are required to be a member of the association to obtain those. Other discounts are available without a membership requirement.

Here are a few examples:

- US Cellular offers ISU employees a $5 discount per month on each line for qualifying plans
- Super Cuts offers $2 off haircuts
- Campus Garage offers a 10% discount
- Culver’s offers a 10% discount on your order

Vendor discounts are also available to Iowa State employees through their Delta Dental of Iowa, Wellmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield and Principal Financial Group benefits. See the full list on the University Human Resources web site.

Since some discounts are not widely known, they can sometimes also be found by simply asking
Highlighting ISU Staff: Stephanie Schoeller, Finance Delivery

This month we recognize Stephanie Schoeller, an Assistant Finance Manager in Finance Delivery.

Stephanie was nominated by Rachael Gross who wrote, “Stephanie has made a remarkable impact on our team. She is highly motivated and demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to ISU. Stephanie assisted in our financial reporting workbook initiative. She held training sessions, developed job aids, and collaborated with departments to produce over 1,000 workbooks. Stephanie has led two large projects: DERECHO and CARES. Stephanie provided training sessions, developed simplified data summaries, and created user-friendly training materials. She is a self-starter who does not back away from challenges and promotes positive changes to ensure a consistent, high-quality finance experience for ISU.”

Congratulations Stephanie, 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 council’s Highlighting ISU Staff web page, and/or included in future newsletters.