November Council Meeting

Thursday, November 3, 2022
2:10 p.m.
Grand Ballroom, Memorial Union
Please join us! All Iowa State University Professional and Scientific employees are welcome!

ISU benefits survey is coming - watch for your invitation and participate!

Iowa State University will be conducting a benefits survey of employees November 1 - November 15.

The survey will be administered in partnership with Mercer, an independent consulting firm. You are urged to be on the lookout for the survey information from Mercer and to complete the survey with your honest feedback.

Your participation is vital to making this effort a success. The survey will help the university measure your preferences and satisfaction with various benefits plans and programs available to you, and will help guide future decisions and initiatives.

Call for Professional Development Conference proposals is now open! Submission deadline November 4

The 11th Annual Professional Development Conference presented by Professional and Scientific Council will be held February 22, 2023 at the Gateway Hotel and Conference Center.

If you have a topic you think Professional and Scientific employees will benefit from learning about and want to share your expertise, please consider being a presenter at our Cultivate 2023 conference!

All individuals who are interested in presenting, or would like to recommend a presenter, will need to complete this online form by November 4, 2022.

Nominate an individual or team for a P&S Council CYtation Award by December 1

A reminder that nominations for this year’s Professional and
Scientific Council Citation Awards are now being accepted through December 1.

You’re encouraged to take this opportunity to recognize a Professional and Scientific employee or team that has gone over and above their normal duties; has done something extraordinarily well; or has acted in such a way as to make a real difference at Iowa State University.

Learn more about our awards and make your nomination today! You can also email questions to our Awards Committee.

Questions about student loan matters? Join our next Seminar Series event

With the pause on federal student loan repayment set to end January 1, 2023 and the pending student loan forgiveness program, Professional and Scientific employees may have questions or need help understanding how their federal student loans may be affected.

Join us November 8 for our next Seminar Series event, “Navigating Student Loan Forgiveness for Higher Education Professionals,” to learn more about this timely topic. Isaac Ehlers, Assistant Director, Office of Student Financial Success and Clare Andresen, Financial Literacy Advisor, Office of Student Financial Success, will lead the presentation.

They’ll discuss the federal loan forgiveness program, student loan repayment, and Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF); including going in-depth regarding the income-drive repayment plans and providing insight on completing the annual Employment Certification form and the Application for Forgiveness under PSLF.

Join us, in-person only on November 8, 2-3 p.m., Memorial Union Room 3560. No registration is necessary.

And be sure to mark your calendar for our December 13 virtual event, when University Ombuds Laura Smythe will present “Conflict Management with the University Ombuds.”

Always check the Seminar Series page of the Professional and Scientific Council web site for the latest information on Seminar Series events.

Did You Know? Office of Risk Management handles many aspects of university life to keep you safe and informed

The Office of Risk Management’s (ORM) mission is to provide expertise, resources, and solutions to positively impact the university’s financial, physical, and reputational well-being. Some of the key processes handled through their office are discussed here.

Student organizations, departments/units, and third-party entities who plan to hold events at Iowa State University must submit event requests through the University Event Authorization system.

This authorization is a collaborative process designed to: 1) improve event planning and coordination; 2) ensure compliance with university policies and procedures; and 3) enhance security and safety of the ISU community and visitors to campus.

ORM provides a list of Approved Food/Beverage Vendors that are already approved to work with the university. If you are having an event and serving food you can take the SafeFood 101 course on Canvas so you meet the requirements to serve food on campus.

ORM processes Motor Vehicle Record (MVR) checks for all drivers of university vehicles; and administers commercial insurance and self-insurance programs for the university.

You can also learn about the university’s policies on incident and injury reporting, travel and more. Find more information about ORM and its many offerings.
"Why I joined Professional & Scientific Council" (and why you should too)

Our councilors share their stories of when they joined Professional and Scientific Council. This month we feature Whitney Groomes, who serves on council’s Representation Committee.

I had been to the Professional and Scientific Council Professional Development Conference a few times and I really enjoyed the content that was shared.

I listened to the council representatives talk about their experiences, what they do with the council and their encouragement to get involved. It reminded me a lot of Residence Hall Association when I was in college. I had a lot of fun with that and I felt like I could make a difference.

I knew I’d be able to meet a lot of people and be involved more with campus. That is what intrigued me. I talked with a co-worker who was on council and asked her about her experience. She talked to me about what she does with council and answered any questions that I had. I talked to her about my concerns and about being a little nervous about joining. She made me feel like it was something that I could do.

She was right.

So far I couldn’t be happier with my experience. Everyone has been so nice and welcoming. They do a good job with helping to understand the process and what my expectations are and it’s rewarding knowing I’m playing a role in helping fellow Professional and Scientific employees.

YOU can make a difference in the experience of your fellow Professional and Scientific employees by joining Professional and Scientific Council!

Highlighting ISU Staff: Julie Devine

Julie Devine, Administrative Assistant III in the Ivy College of Business, has been selected as this month’s recipient of Highlighting ISU Staff honors.

Julie was nominated by Jamie Sass, Student Services Specialist III in the Ivy Writing and Speaking Center, who commented, “Administrative assistants make the university function, and there is no better example of that than Julie Devine. Julie is a top-notch professional who is great at anticipating needs, organizing and multi-tasking to make operational functions happen easily, and navigating a multitude of diverse tasks every day. She’s an excellent resource for employees at Ivy because if it’s not a task Julie is responsible for, she can connect to the right person. I can’t count the number of questions I’ve asked her – and the number or right answers she’s given me. The Ivy College of Business is so lucky to have Julie!”

Congratulations, Julie, 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.
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 web site.

Make a difference! Join Professional and Scientific Council!

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