



Indiana State University Staff Council Newsletter

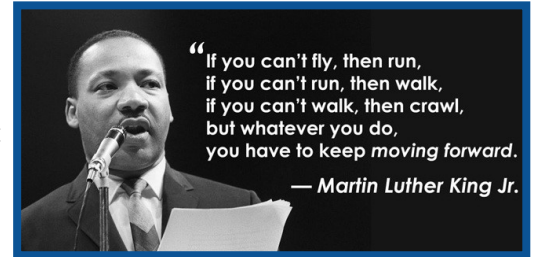


January 2021

Happy New Year Sycamore Staff! If you are reading this you made it through one of the most challenging years in modern history. As we start the Spring semester, let's not forget all the innovative ways we overcame adversity in 2020 and we did it by joining together. Reach out for assistance, keep supporting one another and keep the faith.

Elbow bumps, chin nods, and Zoom waves are all part of the new communication culture but we still want to get to know each other.

Personal connection is key when cultivating relationships. With that said, we will be featuring one Staff Council rep and one ISU Staff this year in the monthly newsletter as well as highlighting accomplishments of staff, departments, divisions and community partners on social media outlets. We are looking to expand on Instagram, hold virtual social gatherings and other fun events so stay tuned for more as the year progresses.



Sycamore Staff Council Representative Spotlight

How long have you worked at ISU? I started at ISU in February of 2017 with Parking Services and then started with the Educational Leadership Dept. in February of 2019 for a total of 4 years this February.



Melisa Allen

Why did you want to be a Staff Council rep? I thought it would be a great way to learn more about the university and to build relationships with fellow staff members across campus.

What has been your favorite or rewarding part of being on Staff Council? I would have to say my favorite part of being on Staff Council has been getting to know my fellow staff council members. By being on the Public Relations Committee and helping with different events I have gotten to build relationships with people I never would have gotten the chance to meet. This networking with other staff members has helped me in my daily job so much. I now have so many people that I can call for help and I know they will have my back. This is a great group of people and awesome opportunity for networking with others.

What are your hobbies? I love painting florals with acrylics, crafting of any kind, spending time with my 2 standard poodles Remy and Ruger and spending time with my family.

Style of music do you like? I enjoy listening to instrumental music but if I'm in my car I listen to country

Tell us about your most memorable vacation? My husband and I have been blessed to be able to take a lot of fun vacations but the best vacations to me are to St. George Island, Florida with my husband, kids and in-laws. We just hang out on the beach, cook meals in and fish. We are content to just hang!!!! I just had my first grandbaby, Wesley, so I can't wait to share St. George Island with him someday.

Childhood memory? I lost my mom to cancer when I was 8 years old so I grew up as part of a large stepfamily. I was one of 6 kids and I remember we always played long hours outside with all of the neighborhood kids till way after dark. Hide and seek in the dark was the best!!!!

What do you want staff to know about you as their rep? That it is an honor to serve my fellow staff members as a campus liaison via Staff Council. I am always available and interested in hearing all questions, concerns and feedback. My hope is that we can be unified in our willingness to share our knowledge and be there to offer our support to one another so we can be successful staff members no matter what department we work in. My hope is that we would not be competitors but belong to the same team!!!!

Sycamore Staff Spotlight

How long have you worked at ISU? I have been with the University for the past 25 years. I have always worked in the Office of the Controller, but have worked many different positions during my 25 years of service.

Are you an ISU alum? I am currently a student working on my Accounting Degree. At this time I am considered a Junior 1.

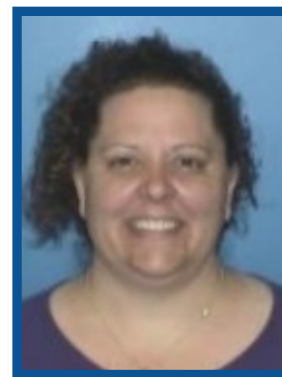
What has been your favorite or rewarding part of working at ISU? My favorite part of my job would be working with numbers and the people. I know not everyone enjoys working with numbers, but I find I am very good with them. I also enjoy working with the different people my job allows me to work with. With their interesting situations, they like to keep me on my toes.

What are your hobbies? My current hobby is sewing. Since the pandemic, I have dusted off my sewing machine and found how much I love to sew. When I have a few minutes to spare, I like to work in my sewing room, I just set up this past year.

Are you a dog person or a cat person (or neither)? I am more of a cat person, but we currently do not have one. We do have a wonderful dog named Molly, that my in-laws brought with them when they decided to retire and move to live on our land.

What's one song you have completely memorized? Since I love all music – I have a lot of songs memorized. My current fav is Bang! from AJR.

When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up? When I was growing up, I always knew I wanted to work with numbers. This is one of the reasons why I am currently working on getting my degree in Accounting. My job allows me to work with numbers most of the time and is one of the reasons I like what I do.



Billie Dill

Make sure to visit the Indiana State University Staff Council Facebook page for campus communications, council updates, fun activities, question of the day and more!



If you have suggestions, ideas, comments....make sure to submit thoughts and feedback here:



Health and Wellness

Work on weight loss with Lighten Up Blue — Each week we meet on video Wednesdays 2:00 pm or Thursdays 10:00 am. Find support and resources to help you meet your weight loss and exercise goals. Email ISU-EmployeeWellness@indstate.edu for the private meeting link or call Amy Demchak at 812-237-4117.

Tobacco Free Vigo (TFV) is a program of Chances And Services for Youth, funded by the Indiana Department of Health, Tobacco Prevention & Cessation Commission. TFV's mission is to mitigate the devastating consequences of tobacco use in our community by seeking to reduce youth tobacco use rates, adult tobacco use rates, and second-hand smoke exposure. TFV's efforts are fueled by the work of the Tobacco Free Vigo Coalition, a broad-based group of individuals and organizations representing diverse interests in the community that include health care, business, and education. The ongoing work of TFV and the Coalition include prevention education, tobacco quitline promotion, outreach, and environmental change.



You can learn more at casonline.org/tobacco-prevention-and-cessation/ or on social media -Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook @TobaccoFreeVigo. To get involved email Sarah at sknoblock@casonline.org or call 812-231-8915.

January 2021 Employee Recognition of Service Milestones

On behalf of Staff Council, we would like to give a huge shout out of “**Congratulations**” to all ISU employees that are celebrating years of service milestones this month. These fine folks are a cultivation of our hardworking and dedicated staff. #SycamoreStaffRocks

Name	Department	Hire Date	Years of Service
Eric Lusk	Office of Information Technology	1/29/2018	3
Deborah Curtis	Office of the President	1/1/2018	3
Adam Mathis	Office of Admissions	1/8/2018	3
Daniel Palmer	University Advancement	1/22/2018	3
Corry Smith	Fraternity & Sorority Life	1/11/2016	5
Dustin Bryant	Career Center	1/4/2016	5
Robert Grayless	Hulman Memorial Student Union	1/11/2016	5
Kimberly Strain	Indiana University School of Medicine - Terre Haute	1/11/2016	5
Sarah Treash	Office of Information Technology	1/11/2016	5
Christopher Middleton	Office of Information Technology	1/3/2011	10
Ashleigh Crowe	University College	1/3/2011	10
Zachariah Mathew	Center for Global Engagement	1/3/2011	10
Dori Ball	Department of Applied Clinical and Educational Sciences	1/3/2011	10
Tammy Parker	Department of Public Safety	1/3/2011	10
Robin Beller	Office of the Controller	1/3/2011	10
Ann Malloy	New Student Transition Programs	1/3/2011	10
Darlene Savant	Housing Facilities Operations	1/3/2006	15
Tracy Hines	Housing Facilities Operations	1/3/2006	15
Michelle Wade	Department of History	1/3/2006	15
Mike Servis	Office of Information Technology	1/2/2001	20
Rodney Norris	Custodians	1/2/2001	20
Tracy McDaniel	Department of Biology	1/2/2001	20
Dexter Pittman	Custodians	1/22/2001	20
Bill Pittman	Custodians	1/22/2001	20
Dennis Vetrovec	Cunningham Memorial Library	1/2/1996	25
Kathryn Elson	Business Engagement Center	1/2/1996	25
David Smith	Department of Public Safety	1/6/1986	35

List was provided by ISU Human Resource Department and reflects staff who are celebrating milestone service years (3, 5, and every 5 years after).

Announcements

SAVE THE DATE for Give to Blue Day 2021!

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Midnight to Midnight

Become a Matching Donor. Create a Challenge. Become a Social Ambassador.

Contact Hilary Duncan; Director of Annual Giving, University Advancement (812) 237-6131

or Hilary.Duncan@indstate.edu to learn about ways to get involved with Give to Blue Day.

GIVE TO BLUE
day
MARCH 11, 2020

24
HOURS

2,418
TOTAL DONORS

\$679,247 RAISED

509 SOCIAL AMBASSADORS

541 STUDENT DONORS

12:02 A.M. FIRST GIFT

11:59 P.M. LAST GIFT

\$280.91 AVERAGE GIFT SIZE

64% ALUMNI GIFTS

Gifts from 48 States AND 6 COUNTRIES

Indiana State University

Community Partner Spotlight



Terre Haute Area Meals on Wheels, INC was established in 1971 to provide meal preparation and meal delivery for the most vulnerable in the Terre Haute community. In 2017 we developed a new partnership with Indiana State University. THNOW is very grateful for the partnership because we have had practicum students and Interns that have worked alongside our staff as well as nursing students that have gone out and worked with our recipients doing well being checks and assessing their home lives to look for ways to improve their day to day lives.



In 2020, Meals on Wheels delivered nearly 48,000 medically tailored meals, to over 300 individuals. We have six staff members, and are blessed with about 80 volunteers (55 deliver meals, 15 are Board of Director members and 10 volunteer in the kitchen and office). Other free programs we provide are clothes closet and Caring Connections (little visits, phone calls, and cards periodically to help alleviate loneliness).

Presently, during 2021 we are celebrating our 50th anniversary. We are in the process of remodeling the building we recently purchased to make our FIRST HOME OF OUR OWN and are scheduled to move in February. In addition to adding a food pantry to our list of programs we are planning to start providing meals to the Brazil area. We receive phone calls weekly for people needing meals in that area but there are no programs that deliver to homes daily like we do.

In order to keep the price of the meals as low as we do, \$5.50 1 hot and 1 cold, we have to depend on the community for volunteers to deliver the meals, help in the kitchen with prepping, packaging, basic office help with answering the phone and We will be starting a food pantry for the first time so we will need help in that area as soon as we get it set up to start. We also depend on volunteers for our Board of Directors. Other areas we can use community volunteers that can be done outside the office are help with grant writing, fundraising, and marketing. Community volunteers are the true backbone of our program and without them we could not exist.

Find out how you can become a volunteer by contacting Meals on Wheels at <https://www.mowth.org/> or call ISU Center for Community Engagement, Jessica Starr, at Jessica.starr@indstate.edu for more details.

I Spy with my Sycamore Eye Contest Winner is

... Jessica Starr from Center for Community Engagement!

Jessica answered 13 out of 15 photos with their locations correctly. She won a very cool Indiana State University Block to proudly display and show her ISU pride and knowledge of campus. You can view the photos with all answers at: <https://www.indstate.edu/services/staff-council>



Letter from the Editor

Happy end of the first week of Spring Semester to my Sycamore Family!



I hope you are enjoying the variety of subject matter in the monthly ISU Staff Council newsletters. If you have anything to share and/or ideas of things you would like to have featured in upcoming newsletters, website or on the social media pages, please let me know by sending an email with details to me at: pamela.chamberlain@indstate.edu or call me at x812-237-3374.

Personally I am already done with the cold weather and looking forward to spring. My daughter thought it would be funny to create a “mom” character of me on her Animal Crossing Nintendo game. Ha! She knows I am ready for warmer weather and outdoor activities but until then this picture of me holding a butterfly will do.

Stay safe Sycamores! — Pam Chamberlain