Greetings! I hope this newsletter finds you all doing well as you begin a new semester and a new academic year. I’m pleased to be serving as your 2017-2018 Professional Council Chair and representing the Council throughout the year on various committees. On the right side of this page you will find a list of the Council members this year and I urge you to reach out to any one of us should you have questions, concerns, or suggestions on ways that we can better serve the staff on campus.

You will be receiving a monthly newsletter throughout the year with important announcements, updates, and upcoming events that might be pertinent to your role or position at MSU.

We want to encourage anyone that is interested in attending our meetings to feel free to stop by and, listen to the speakers, and take part in campus governance on our campus.

If there is anything that I can do to assist you or provide resources or information about, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at jtobin@montana.edu.

17-18 Professional Council Direction

The Professional Council team met at the August retreat, and discussed the purpose and charge of the Professional Council at MSU. We have had several new staff members join our Council and we wanted to get the new year started with a refresher on what the goals are and should be moving forward. Here is what the charge of the Council is:

⇒ Facilitates communication and cooperation among professionals, and communication with administration, in the development of general decisions and policies which affect professional employees.

⇒ Can initiate and review policies and procedures regarding appointment, reappointment, performance evaluations, salary matters, dismissal, as well as related matters concerning benefits, working conditions, and personal freedom and responsibility.

⇒ Help develop and implement long-range planning for the University.

⇒ Review and make recommendations on proposed administrative actions including, but not limited to: the academic calendar; development of budgetary guidelines; selection and review of administrative personnel; and policy regarding publications, public relations, and public service responsibilities.

As the Council begins a new year we want to ensure that we are serving the staff that we represent and speak on behalf of the hundreds of Professional Employees when key issues and topics are discussed within the University. Throughout the year in our newsletter, you will hear various goals and initiatives that we plan to be a part of and address. If there are any topics, concerns, or areas that you feel we should be aware of, please do not hesitate to reach out to us via email at professionalcouncil@montana.edu.
Professional Development Opportunities

October 19 – Bozeman’s Water Resources from Forest to Faucet: Water Use, Drought and Conservation, 1-3 pm, SUB 233
Presenter: Jessica Ahlstrom, City of Bozeman

This workshop will discuss:
- Our water resources here in Bozeman including the state of our water resources today
- What Bozeman residents can do to use water more efficiently
- What we expect for our water resources in the future when considering population growth and Bozeman’s susceptibility to drought.

December 21 – Your Real New Year’s Resolution, 1-3 pm, SUB Ballroom B
Presenter: Campbell Gerrish, MSU Recreational Sports and Fitness

With the coming of the new year we often find ourselves bolstering ambitions towards fitness. In this 2 hour workshop, certified Personal Trainer Campbell Gerrish will review tools that open the possibility and potential of our physical fitness goals. Come learn how to discover a new adventure commit to a routine you know that works for you. We'll use this time to evaluate 2017 goals and barriers, create a compelling vision for 2018, and jump into the New Year with a plan that will be able to stick with!

January 18 – Building Emotional Intelligence: Strategies, Tips, and Tools for Raising Your EQ, 1-3 pm, SUB 233
Presenters: Julie Clay, COA, PMP and Dallas Dallman, MEd

Join us for this two-hour workshop where we will provide strategies, tips and tools for each of the four skills that Emotional Intelligence identifies: Self Awareness, Self-Management, Social Awareness, and Relationship Management. This workshop will be conducted in combination with group mini-exercises, personal reflective work, and large group discussion.

TO REGISTER, VISIT: http://www.montana.edu/hr/development/

Useful Resources/Websites

University Facilities Planning Board —http://www.montana.edu/us/committees/ufpb/
The University Facilities Planning Board serves in an advisory capacity to the President and will develop, recommend, and maintain policies related to the development and utilization of campus facilities and grounds.

Campus Sustainability Advisory Council —http://www.montana.edu/sustainability/csac.html
Guides the university in meeting and exceeding the requirements of the University Presidents Climate Commitment while positioning Montana State University as a true leader in energy and resource management, research, education and outreach. The committee is comprised of faculty, students, administration, and community members and has met regularly for the past year.

Space Management Committee —http://www.montana.edu/wise/index.html
Develop policies and plans in alignment with the University Strategic Plan and institutional priorities for allocations, conversions and growth; report on assignments and utilization of spaces; make recommendations to the President regarding university space.