Professional Council Post
A monthly guide to what matters to YOU!

My name is Karen Steele and I am a member of Professional Council. My position on campus is an academic advisor in the University Studies department, also known as the Academic Advising Center. I also run the National Student Exchange program that has been on the MSU campus since 1969....wow! I love talking to students every day about their classes, their successes and challenges, their busy lives, and their goals and dreams.

Outreach and Engagement Council
Janelle Rasmussen updated us on the $60,000 ($20,000 per year for three years) that President Cruzado gave to this committee to award $5000 seed grants for faculty, staff, and students. The four award winners were just picked out of a very impressive pool of 30. Winners will be announced this week! The next application due date is March 11th. Impact, engagement with the Bozeman community, and student involvement were the major factors behind the selection of last year’s recipients. More information on these grants can be found here:
http://www.montana.edu/outreachengagementcouncil/

Planning and Analysis
Chris Fastnow reported that the Planning Council is conducting a systematic tracking of employee activities relating to the strategic plan (MSU climate survey.) Faculty already participates in a current survey, but students and staff do not. The conversation was about including students and capturing their activities in a co-curricular transcript to find out which outcomes they are reaching. Chris and the council are having discussions to find ways to integrate extracurricular activities and programs into the professional review process. They are interested in finding out if metrics are being reached and how they are being accomplished. Stay tuned for more!!

Research Council
Jonathan Hilmer reported that there is money available for all faculty to bring in speakers that are leaders in their field. The
research council is requesting names that you recommend for bringing speakers to the MSU campus in the future.

http://www.montana.edu/researchcouncil/

Toastmasters

Doreen Brown would like all to consider attending a Toastmasters meeting on our campus. It is a fantastic group of friendly people who are interested in improving their speaking skills. The MSU Toastmasters group meets every Tuesday from 12-1 in SUB 168. Everyone is welcome!

http://www.montana.edu/toastmasters/

Communication: Fair Labor Standards Act and Job Categorization at MSU.

Here is a website set up by Human Resources dedicated to help inform employees:

http://www.montana.edu/hr/job-cat/

Spring Professional Council Social

Come and get your social ON at our annual spring gathering!! Mark your calendars for March 24th from 4-6pm in the Leigh Lounge. Last year’s social was a huge success. The food, drinks, and conversations were all wonderful. Don’t miss this opportunity to meet other professionals and have a blast!

Professional Development

Betsy Webb, from the Office of Human Resources, has announced many opportunities for professional development for this spring semester. The following classes are coming up in February:

February 4 – Designing and Delivering Impactful Trainings, 1-3 pm, SUB 233
Presenter: Betsy Webb
Capacity: 50
This workshop will cover the design and development of a training, from concept to delivery. Three key questions will be addressed: what do I want participants to know at the end of the training, how will I enhance the content with the use of audio/visual aids, and how will I engage participants with the material. Evaluation of training will be briefly addressed.

March 3 – Facilitation Tips and Models, 1-3 pm, SUB 233
Presenter: Betsy Webb
Capacity: 50
Join us for a 2-hour workshop on Group Facilitation. Skill building, facilitation tips and best practices will be shared, along with several models for group process.

Management Development Certificate:

February 1 – MD401: Coaching for Performance, SUB 233, 8-11:30 am, capacity 50

Financial Development Certificate:

February 12 – FD301: Banner Finance Navigation, 9-11 am, SUB 233
February 25 – FD901: Encumbrances, 9-11 am, SUB 235