We want your input! Staff Council has established an anonymous comment box at [www.smith.edu/staffcouncil](http://www.smith.edu/staffcouncil). We welcome your suggestions, comments, or thoughts on any topic related to college issues. We also welcome thoughts or suggestions on the current financial planning and budget discussions. Financial planning suggestions will be compiled and forwarded to the President’s planning committee.

Announcements

Welcome to the Staff Council Chronicle Monthly. We hope the new monthly format will further the mission of Staff Council in the years to come. Also, this two-page monthly format will reduce by 40% the amount of paper used in printing annually. In addition, you have the option of not receiving a printed version of the Chronicle Monthly. See the back of this issue for information on how to “opt out.” Issues will be available online in PDF format.

THANK YOU to Ken Molnar for his creativity and dedication as editor of the Chronicle for the last two years. Though no longer editor, he is staying on as a creative advisor. Thanks also to Angela Tosca for serving on Staff Council this past year. She will continue working as a Communications Committee member and as co-editor of this newsletter. Please join us in welcoming Jinny Mason to Staff Council; she is completing Angela’s term as well as chairing the Personnel Policy Committee.

THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE is continuing its work on improving college communications with staff—in particular Facilities Management and Dining Services. Your input is welcome on this matter, particularly if you feel that you are not “in the loop.”

COUNCIL CHARTER UNDER REVIEW: The Nominations & Elections Committee has been reviewing the Staff Council charter, and several possible revisions will be considered in upcoming full council meetings.

DID YOU KNOW? This is the fiftieth issue of the Staff Council Chronicle. The first was printed in March 1993. See all fifty in PDF format on the Staff Council website!

THE 2009 ONLINE STAFF ART GALLERY can now be viewed at [www.smith.edu/staffcouncil/09](http://www.smith.edu/staffcouncil/09). Why not contribute your own artwork? Information is available on the website.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: Each year Staff Council elects half of its 25-member body. We are looking for nominations for the upcoming elections. Keep an eye on eDigest and the Staff Council website for more information regarding the upcoming nominations process. If you have questions, contact Sandy Bycenski at extension 2634.

ALL-STAFF FORUM: President Christ, Ruth Constantine, and Larry Hunt will present an update for all staff on Monday, February 9, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. in Sweeney Auditorium at Sage Hall regarding the college’s strategies for dealing with the economic challenges we face. This will be an opportunity to get timely information and to ask questions of the presenters. All staff are encouraged to attend.

KEEP IN TOUCH with Staff Council committees. Minutes, news, and other relevant information can be found on the Staff Council website, [www.smith.edu/staffcouncil](http://www.smith.edu/staffcouncil).

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This drawing is a zentangle by Mimi Lempart. See a description of zentangles and more examples of this meditative drawing technique on the online staff gallery.
Meetings

All Staff Council meetings are open and staff members are invited to attend. If you have questions, comments, or suggestions you would like to bring up before a committee, contact the chair of that committee before the meeting.

NOTE: On rare occasions meetings may be rescheduled or canceled, so please check the Staff Council website for updates and/or changes.

February 5 (Thursday) - Full Staff Council Meeting
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Place: Campus Center Room 003
Chair: Rick Rubin, ext. 2318

February 10 (Tuesday) - Steering Committee
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: 30 Belmont Avenue, 2nd floor Conference Room
Chair: Rick Rubin, ext. 2318

February 10 (Tuesday) - Nominations & Elections Committee
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Place: Lilly Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Chair: Sandy Bycenski, ext. 2634

February 12 (Thursday) - Communications Committee
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Place: Stoddard Hall, Room G4
Chair: Karen LeHouiller, ext. 4487

February 20 (Friday) - Personnel Policy Committee
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Place: Neilson Administrative Conference Room
Chair: Jinny Mason, ext. 2902

Date TBA - Diversity Committee
Co-Chairs: Abida Adnan, ext. 2268; Toby Davis ext. 7976

Date TBA - Activities Committee
Co-chairs: Linda LaFlam, ext. 2457; Sabrina Marsh ext. 2505

Events

February 9 (Monday) - ID Retake Break
2:00-5:00 p.m. Campus Center Lower Level, Room 003. Does your Smith ID look absolutely nothing like you—or are you just dissatisfied with the photo? Here is your chance to get a new picture taken. Open to staff & faculty only. Free for an online directory picture retake and $10 for a new ID (that’s half price!) Snacks available—and the pub will be open!

March 23 (Monday) - Book Fair Exchange
The collection dates are March 18-20. More info to come.

April 18 (Saturday) - Spring Trip to NYC
$35.00 per person. This trip is open to all Smith College staff, faculty, and their guests. The bus will depart Smith at 7:00 a.m., and depart NYC at 7:00 p.m. The bus is handicapped accessible; however, advance notice of special needs is required. To reserve a seat, call extension 2678 or send an e-mail to staffactivities@smith.edu by March 26.

The Chronicle Monthly is funded by the Smith College Staff Council and is published by and for Smith College staff. All rights reserved. An electronic version of this newsletter is also available online at www.smith.edu/staffcouncil/chronicle.

Staff Council encourages submission of announcements and event listings for publication in this newsletter. Staff Council and editorial staff reserve the right to edit submitted material for purposes of clarity or length.

PROOFREADERS: Carla Cooke, Marti Hobbes, Mimi Lempart

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