MEET THE CANDIDATES!

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to run for Staff Council. Your commitment is what makes Staff Council an important part of the Smith College community. This year’s nominees are Mary Lou Bouley, Mairin Brady, Steve Davis, Ashavan Doyon, Ana Gorman, Kelly-Jean Huard, Emily Juster, Pattie Lumba, Wendy Martinez, Sara McGuire, Hilary Mikucki, Madelyn Neely, Barbara Pliska, Dale Renfrow, Kelly Richey, Sam Rush, Rachel Siegel, and Pat Wheeler. Ballots will be distributed next week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAFF COUNCIL NEWS: Karen LeHouiller has stepped down from the Council due to department consolidation, but will remain chair of the Communications Committee for the remainder of the term. Thank you, Karen, for all you have done! Committee minutes, news, and other information can be found on the Staff Council Web site, www.smith.edu/staffcouncil.

NEWS FROM THE SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Discussions continue regarding the arming of Public Safety officers. If any staff members have questions about this issue, please contact Paul Ominsky, Director of Public Safety, at safetystudy@smith.edu. Here are some successes as a result of the recent Parking Master Plan: four Zipcars on campus have eliminated the need for 20 parking spaces, staff are using free academic-year bus service or are biking to campus, and 90 employees are opting out of bringing their cars to campus. Smith is reviewing crosswalk safety in the Elm Street corridor. There is also consideration of narrowing Elm Street to increase bike lane width.

RESPONDING TO THE FINANCIAL ENVIRONMENT:

Staff are reminded that there is an anonymous comment box on the Staff Council Web site that can be used to send your thoughts or suggestions on current financial planning and budget discussions. Please note that any ideas presented through the comment box are not necessarily endorsed by the Council. We are merely serving as a conduit for information-sharing. The Office of the President has established several Web pages responding to the challenging financial environment. These pages include community feedback, frequently asked questions, and meeting summaries. See www.smith.edu/president/financial.

THE 2009 ONLINE STAFF ART GALLERY can be viewed at www.smith.edu/staffcouncil/09. New to the gallery this month are photos by Eric Sergel. His “Bridge of Flowers” is at right. All staff are invited to contribute art, photos, or digital images of other creative endeavors to the gallery.

BIRD WATCHING TRIP—April 14 (Tuesday), 4:45-7:00 p.m.

The Activities Committee is sponsoring a bird watching trip to a great blue heron rookery in the Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary of Northampton. Visiting the rookery requires a two-mile round trip walk on a level path. There is no charge. This trip is limited to twelve participants. Staff and family members welcome. To sign up, contact Chris Gentes at cgentes@smith.edu.

CLARIFICATION: In the March issue of the Chronicle Monthly there was an incorrect hyperlink to the Vision Program for Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare. The correct link follows: https://www.harvardpilgrim.org/portal/page?_pageid=213,38430&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL. If typing this URL seems daunting, we have provided a link at www.smith.edu/staffcouncil/chronicle.
April 2 (Thursday) - Full Staff Council Meeting
Time: 2:00 p.m.  President Christ will be speaking at 2:30 p.m.
Place: Campus Center, Room 204
Chair: Rick Rubin, ext. 2318

April 7 (Tuesday) - Steering Committee
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: 30 Belmont Avenue, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Chair: Rick Rubin, ext. 2318

April 7 (Tuesday) - Nominations & Elections Committee
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Place: Lilly Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Chair: Sandy Bycenski, ext. 2634

April 9 (Thursday) - Communications Committee
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Place: Stoddard Hall, Room G4
Chair: Karen LeHouiller, ext. 4487

April 17 (Friday) - Personnel Policy Committee
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Place: Neilson Library, Administrative Conference Room
Chair: Jinny Mason, ext. 2902

Emily Nagoski, Wellness Education Director, Student Affairs

Where did you work before joining us at Smith?
West Chester University of Pennsylvania, a mid-sized state school just outside Philadelphia. I was Assistant Coordinator of Wellness Programs and Assistant Director of the Women's Center.

What do you do in the Wellness Office at Smith?
We provide education and resources for students to develop their capacity for self-care. Smithies are remarkable people with vast potential, and that potential is best met if a student has mastered the “being a person” part of life, as well as the academic, intellectual stuff. Some of the topics I deal with are: alcohol, stress, sleep, sexual health, interpersonal skills, time management and procrastination, nutrition, physical activity, and individual differences in temperament.

Do you have a favorite spot on Campus?
The Southeast Asia/Antipodes room in the Botanical Gardens. There’s a waterfall and a bench and if I can find time on a Tuesday to sit there with The New York Times science section, that makes my day.

Can you tell us an interesting or little-known fact about yourself?
I come from a family of musicians—my mother is a voice teacher, my sister is a choral conductor, and my brother is a minimalist composer and ethnomusicologist. How does this affect my job? I walk around Clark Hall singing all the time, often without noticing.

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