

# College of Veterinary Medicine Staff Council Annual Report 2014

2014 marked a year of growth for the CVM Staff council. Building on a strong foundation developed during 2013, Staff Council continued to foster wellness, community building and staff engagement. A major goal of 2014 as discussed at our January meeting was to encourage staff participation in council led programs at the college.

## Goals and outcomes for 2014

### Build Community

- Congratulatory cards sent out throughout the year to deserving CVM employees
- Open meetings scheduled throughout the year to allow greater involvement from CVM staff
- Development of an Ambassador Program in which new staff members are paired with existing employees. More than 15 staff members have signed up to be ambassadors.
- July summer social of lemonade, Italian ice and watermelon
- CVM Staff Council hosted tables at the Pie and Ice Cream event in November and the Benefair in December

### Foster Staff Engagement

- February forum presentation “A job should fit you like your favorite pair of jeans: One stop shopping for tools and resources to manage your career at Cornell.”
- March Wellness event “Meet the Calorie Detective”
- March Madness walking challenge in which more than 275 faculty and staff participated, the awards celebration was covered by PawPrint
- April Wellness Event “Green Smoothies!”
- July forum presentation “Optimal Resume”
- August forum presentation “The Strengths-Based Approach to Developing your Career”
- October forum presentation “Cigna Life Insurance general Information Session Q&A”
- VRT Stair Climb Challenge, article in PawPrint

### Improve Communications within the College

- We are continuing to use multiple means of communication including digital signage, emails, orange posters and the staff council website including videos of presentations when possible.
- In addition this year we provided training that would allow for individuals to improve their communication.
  - January forum presentation “Communicating with Tact, Professionalism and Diplomacy”

### Advisory Group to College Leadership

- Representation on the RFP committee for the new dining services contract
- The chair represented the council at two Executive College meetings in April and October

### Additional Outcomes

- Budget committee was established, developed an FY15 budget and policies for spending
- We said goodbye to Paul Streeter and welcomed Dave Howe to our meetings

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## Future and Continuing Plans

- We will be working with Wayne Davenport and his group to provide assistance and communication surrounding the class expansion project.
- March Madness (round two)
- CSA – Community Supported Agriculture pick up location

On behalf of all the staff in the College of Veterinary Medicine, we would like to thank the college administration for their continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

2014 CVM Staff Council:

Jane Lee, Chair 2014

Cathy Andersen, Vice Chair 2014

Sarah Miller, Secretary 2014

Paula Aiken

Linda Benson

Scott Butler

Cindy DeCloux

Tammi Hoover

Steve Lamb

Carol Merkur

Mary Beth Jordan, ex officio member

Dave Howe, ex officio member

Paul Streater, ex officio member

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