The FSU Staff Senate has completed its twenty-first year. The 2018-19 academic year was a significant and eventful year for the Staff Senate, having accomplished most of our goals set for the year. The purpose of the Staff Senate is to contribute to the success of the university. Some of the recent ways in which the Senate contributed toward its purpose were through charitable community donations, monthly Staff Senate meetings, spring elections, professional development events, fundraising events, newsletters, website updates, bylaws updates, university-wide committee representatives, and the end-of-the-year celebrations and awards luncheon May 20-23, 2019.

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize the staff at Fayetteville State University. There is remarkable work happening across this campus in support of each other and our students. I am truly grateful to work alongside you all. I wish to thank all our senators and associate members for their outstanding volunteer service, as well as our Faculty Senate and Student Government colleagues for their partnership in service to FSU. Finally, I must acknowledge our executive officers, staff senators and associate members for their dedicated leadership, wise counsel, and tireless efforts that are deeply appreciated. You are appreciated.

As always, we welcome comments and suggestions from all members of the FSU community. The Staff Senate provide opportunities to get involved, grow, and gain leadership experience. No matter where you work on campus, we hope that you’ll consider running for Staff Senate so that we can continue to be a more diverse and truly representative body. Feel free to attend any of our monthly meetings. They are held each third Thursday in the J. C. Jones Board Room.

Warmest Regards,
Velappan Velappan
FSU Staff Senate President
Mr. Velappan Velappan was selected to attend the Reference USA Users Conference in Omaha, Nebraska on September 24-26, 2018. There were approximately 40 librarians in and around North Carolina including three Academic University librarians from UNC schools who were selected and attended this event. Mr. Velappan acquired a lot of valuable information from the User Conference that included the following sessions: Tour of Infogroup Database Compilation Facility, Infogroup Real World Data Analysis and Comparisons, Real World Use Case: Helping Businesses Grow & Succeed, Fresh Perspectives: The Voices of the Library, Beyond the Subscription: A Value-Added Partnership from VP of Product Management among others.

The Charles W. Chesnutt Library has a valid subscription for Reference USA database for FSU patrons who are taking and teaching classes in Business Management and Market Research. Reference USA database contains detailed information about more than 16 million verified and 39 million unverified U.S. Businesses, 159 million U.S. residents, 1.2 million U.S. Health Care Providers, 2.5 million job postings, 1.9 million Canadian Businesses, and 11 million Canadian residents. They offer the most detailed and accurate business data available in the industry. Every day, new businesses open, existing businesses change locations and eventually some businesses close-down. They also phone-verify every record annually, making more than 24 million calls a year. Reference USA has partnered with Indeed.com to bring over 2.5 million jobs to the U.S. Jobs and Internships database. Patrons can find jobs all over the country and search by job title, company name, business type, job type, multiple geography options, and more. In addition to the database, they offer comprehensive job tools such as resume writing tips, cover letter examples, interview tips, continuing education materials, searching tips, salary estimates, and much more.
POINSETTIA FUNDRAISER

By

Senator Suzetta Perkins

The FSU Staff Senate conducted its annual Poinsettia fundraiser this past November. Purchases were made by FSU faculty, staff and members of the Fayetteville community. Beautiful poinsettias in colors of red, pink, and white were sold and decorated many desks around the university. Eight hundred and thirty dollars were raised, netting the Staff Senate a profit of $320. Proceeds from the sale go toward funding our annual Staff Appreciation Day.

The fundraiser was a success and Senator Michelle Saunders, who chaired this effort, thanks all who supported it. We look forward to doing it again later this year.

Thank you for your support!
The Grant/Scholarship Committee of the Fayetteville State University (FSU) Staff Senate was privileged to honor two of our peers with educational scholarships for the Spring 2019 Semester. The scholarship recipients were Ms. Paula Y. Sampson, Office Manager/Notary Public in the Office of the Registrar, and Ms. Kelisha B. Graves, Academic Excellence Counselor/Freshman Seminar Instructor for the FSU Honors and Undergraduate Research Programs. They received public acknowledgement of their awards from Chancellor James Anderson during the Chancellor’s Annual Holiday Christmas Party for faculty and staff this past December. Chancellor Anderson presented each winner with a symbolic check for the $250 scholarship they would be receiving.

Both awardees are currently attending Fayetteville State University. Ms. Sampson and Ms. Graves were selected from a highly competitive field of applicants. There were more than two worthy candidates based on credentials, service to the university, and the quality of their educational pursuits, but the accompanying essays submitted by the honorees moved them to the head of the line.

Ms. Sampson is currently pursuing an MBA in Healthcare Management. This course of educational study is allowing her to hone her expertise in the field of Management, including developing her leadership and problem-solving skills. Her long-term professional goal is to become an advisor and instructor in FSU’s College of Business and Economics. Ms. Graves is pursuing a PhD. in Educational Leadership. She chose this educational pathway as preparation for a career maximizing learning for underserved students and developing methods for motivational and inspirational teaching. Her long-term professional goal is to become a university Provost, and eventually a university President or Chancellor.

The Staff Senate would like to again congratulate Ms. Paula Sampson and Ms. Kelisha Graves for their outstanding educational achievement. The Grant/Scholarship committee is looking forward to the opportunity to add to the ever-growing list of educational scholarship recipients.
Executive Assistant to the Chancellor, Ms. Ann Zomerfeld, received the Janet B. Royster Scholarship in the amount of $1,000. She is the fourth recipient at FSU to win this prestigious award. Ms. Zomerfeld received her B.S. in Business Management from the University of Montana, a M.B.A. from Nova Southeastern University in Florida, and is presently in the Ed.D. program at FSU.

Ms. Zomerfeld used an Arthur Ashe quote, “Success is a journey not a destination,” in defining what her educational path has been. She states that her journey has come with challenges, however, it has allowed her to stretch herself beyond what she thought she could achieve. Her ultimate goal is to teach at the university level.

The purpose of the Janet B. Royster Scholarship is to provide scholarship(s) to full-time, permanent non-faculty employees who are taking either undergraduate or graduate level courses at an accredited institution of higher education, or enrolled in approved – short courses, licensure, certificate or continuing educations programs that supports staff development.

Congratulations Ms. Ann Zomerfeld.
Backpack Lunch Buddies

Program

The Fayetteville State University Staff Senate adopted and participated in a community service project, the Backpack Lunch Buddies program, which has now become an annual event. The Staff Senate Backpack Lunch Buddies Food Drive for this year has ended with distribution scheduled for Thursday, March 28, 2019. This year, the Senate partnered with Westarea Elementary School on Country Club Drive.

Senator Gloria Mills, the coordinator for this program, states “the goal of the program is to help fight child hunger in our community.” Donations were collected campus wide for a total weight of 572.50 pounds of food. Second Harvest Food Bank has assisted the past two years in supplying containers in which to collect and store donations. The Senate’s goal is to prepare two bags each for 40 children.

Items collected for the food drive consisted of box raisins, juices, Vienna sausages, mac n’ cheese, breakfast bars, cereal, fruit cups, snack cakes, and the list goes on. To accommodate the large plastic bags that will be given to each child, individual containers, pop-off-tops, microwaveable items were requested. Children who receive most of their food from school meals may go with little or no food when school is out on weekends; therefore, the items to be distributed are given as a supplement for meals they may not receive once school is out and during extended breaks.

“This is a wonderful event in helping to fight hunger in our community for children, one backpack at a time,” says Gloria Mills. “The outpouring has been so awesome, and we plan on making this program greater as we move forward in years to come.”

Fighting hunger is a passion of Senator Mills, and she’d like to thank the Fayetteville State University staff, faculty, and staff senate members for their donations and assistance with the food drive. She also would like to thank the Chesnutt Library student workers who assisted in picking up, loading, and sorting food items. We want to continue to be a blessing to our community.

FACTS: In North Carolina, over 118,000 children in our service area applied for free and reduced-price meals, according to the Department of Public Instruction. One in four children are at risk of being hungry in North Carolina and need help.
A MURDER MYSTERY ON FSU’S CAMPUS

By Patricia Flanigan

On February 16, 2019, the FSU Staff Senate held its first “Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre.” What an awesome event it was. The evening was filled with glamour, love, humor—and murder. The cast was comprised of FSU staff and members of the Fayetteville community. The off-stage support by FSU students and local businesses proved to be the needed motivation giving the night an atmosphere of a Broadway production with a star-studded cast. The evening was a fun-filled activity with a delectable dinner and glowing remarks from over 150 attendees.

Funds generated from the activity will be used in support of the Fayetteville State University Staff Senate Education Grant. This grant is awarded yearly by the FSU Staff Senate to members of the non-teaching staff in support of their educational endeavors. Staff recipients must be a full-time employee and currently enrolled in either a certification or a degree granting program. The Staff Senate supports, publicizes, advocates and, represents the interests and needs of all non-teaching staff at FSU.

The Wedding Reception by Archie Wilson was presented as the story of two people who are head-over-heels in love. Yet, the quarreling families have long held hidden secrets, their basis for not wanting the couple to marry. Despite the animosity of the two families against the marriage, the couple completed their nuptials. The pre-reception was the first indication that this was going to be an interesting night. Members of the wedding party had no discretion in voicing their negative thoughts about this marriage to the guests during the pre-reception. Therefore, the dinner reception began with high tensions. Guests were talking among themselves as to what they had learned during the earlier informal reception. During the dinner, while the audience watched and listened, the father of the bride was the first of the wedding party to give remarks, and the remarks were negatively directed at the groom and members of his family. As the father of the bride ended his remarks, he collapsed and died. Thus, the mystery began.

Throughout the dinner reception, attendees were awed by the caliber of acting by their peers as well as the unfolding drama that was presented to them. Each table worked as a detective agency to solve the murder mystery and, ultimately, win the evening. The Fayetteville State University Staff Senate expresses sincere appreciation to all who supported the organization’s first murder mystery fundraiser.

Cast and Support Staff

Yolanda Barnes Bride
Larry Morning Groom
Dwane Hodges Father of the Groom
Marny Marsh Mother of the Groom
La'Won Williams Father of the Bride
Paula Sampson Mother of the Bride
John Greengrass Best Man
Jolanda Smith Bridesmaid
Monica Goodwin Bridesmaid
Rodney McCrowre Super Sleuth
Ray Thomas Emcee

Yolanda Barnes & Adam Glenn Cast Directors
Leon Borders Photography Cast Photographer
Bryan Barber, Chris Blue & Gary Kinard Audio & Music
Natasha Walker Graphic Designer
Shelton Richardson Lighting

Special Appreciation

Dr. James A. Anderson, Chancellor
Dr. Jon Young, Chief of Staff
Mr. Carlton Spellman, Division of Business & Finance
Dr. Janice Haynie & Dr. Juanette Council, Division of Student Affairs
Special Appreciation Con’t.

Ben C. Minter & Alfreda M. Cromartie,
Office of Events Management
Aramark Food Services, Catering
  Ms. Jewel Harrington,
  Rudolph Jones Student Center
  Ms. Cindy Harrington,
  Together As One Bride Boutique
Mr. James Tillman, JT’s RSVP Tuxedos
Williams & Williams Events Planning,
  Dining Room Table Decor
FSU Police & Public Safety
  FSU Print Shop
  FSU Ticket Office
  FSU Staff Senate

Super-duper kudos to the
Murder Mystery Planning Committee
Patricia G. Flanigan, Committee Chair
Linda Saunders, Committee Co-Chair
  Yolanda Barnes, FSU Alumni
  Shenetta Dudley, Senator
  Tammika J Frowner, Senator
  Sonya Knight, Senator
  Gloria Mills, Senator
  Armescia Moody,
  Vice President, Staff Senate
  Michelle Saunders,
  Membership Coordinator, Senator
  Velappan Velappan,
  President, Staff Senate
  Natasha Walker,
  Treasurer & President Elect, Staff Senate
  Cindia Wetherwax, Senator
  Nicholle Young, Senator
To the Most Amazing Staff at Fayetteville State University

From our last publication until now-

Happy Birthday!

As a **NEW YEAR** in your life dawns,

it brings with it **new** possibilities,

and the chance to make brand **new happy** memories.

May you have a **happy and memorable** Birthday!
STAFF SENATE
Influencing the quality of Campus Life

What is the Staff Senate?
Staff Senate is a forum through which FSU staff members may provide input on campus policies, procedure, and programs. It also serves as a channel by which information may be communicated to staff.

Why Participate in Staff Senate?
Participation in Staff Senate provides the opportunity to interact with colleagues on campus, to stay aware of current campus issues, and to play an active role in influencing the quality of campus life.

Why Serve?
The Staff Senate relies on the involvement of staff to accomplish our mission to represent and advocate for non-faculty Staff at FSU. There are several options for getting involved. You could join one of the Senate committees, serve as a staff representative on a university-wide committee, or serve as a Senator. You can join staff committees at any time. University-wide and Senate appointments are only at specified times of the year.

Join us for our monthly meetings:
Each 3rd Thursday at 2:00pm
JC Jones Board Room
Chesnutt Library 2nd Floor

Our Mission
The mission of Staff Senate shall be to provide representation for the staff and to be a voice in decision making processes of the FSU community. Staff recognize their increasing role of providing professional services to the University. The Staff Senate shall seek new opportunities for staff, and ensure that staff work in a positive, respectful atmosphere with opportunities for their own professional and personal development.

Staff Senate is to serves in an advisory capacity to the Chancellor and his/her designees. The Senate will act as a deliberative body for the Staff information and enactment of rules, policies, regulations and procedures consistent with established policies and procedures of Fayetteville State University, General Administration, and The University of North Carolina Systems. Provide a regular, open forum to facilitate communication among all SHRA & EHRA (non-teaching) employees concerning general employment interests and concerns, current University operations, and University plans or prospects.

Together WE Can!
Thank you for taking the time to view our publication!

SENATOR Suzetta Perkins
Communications Editor-in-Chief
Senator/Senate Secretary

SENATOR Velappan Velappan
President: Staff Senate
2017-Present

Senator Patricia Flanigan
Senator Cindi Wetherwax
Senator Nicholle Young
Senator Natasha Walker-
Newsletter Designer/Editor