



UW Professional Staff Organization

Mission

The Professional Staff Organization (PSO) highlights the essential role of, enriches the experience of, and serves as a resource for professional staff at the University of Washington.

Vision

The Professional Staff Organization strives to be a trusted and valued partner by:

- Seeking the alignment of university governance with the university's stated values and the interests of the professional staff community
- Nurturing a culture of excellence at the University of Washington
- Fostering a collegial environment among professional staff and with the greater university community

Core Values

Advocacy. PSO advocates for the interests and benefits of the professional staff as a whole.

Communication. PSO promotes effective communication among professional staff and with the university community.

Education. PSO educates professional staff and the university community about issues that affect professional staff.

Professional Development. PSO provides scholarships and grants to support professional development.

Representation. PSO represents the myriad groups of professional staff through participation in university governance.

The Professional Staff Organization (PSO) at the University of Washington, established in 1990, represents the issues and concerns of professional staff to the university administration, the campus, and our local community. All UW professional staff are members of PSO.

Over the years PSO has:

- Provided information to legislators
- Represented professional staff on faculty councils and committees, from academic to facility
- Worked to improve communication and build camaraderie among professional staff across UW
- Collaborated with the UW administration on issues relevant to professional staff

Although the 7,400 professional staff employees at UW are grouped as one personnel class, our roles are as varied as the activities of the university. Among our ranks are advisers counseling students; research scientists running labs and experiments; fiscal and human resources staff tracking legal and regulatory compliance; and facilities managers maintaining the university's buildings. PSO includes budget analysts, program directors, admission officers, theater managers, marketing directors and university police officers.

Professional staff maintains the institutional memory of the UW. Through our commitment to education and public service, we support the mission of the university, serving its faculty and students, and ultimately, the people of Washington State.

PSO hosts member meetings in autumn and spring quarters to talk candidly and collegially about issues at the University. Past speakers include: Provost and Executive Vice President Phyllis Wise, Vice President of Human Resources Mindy Kornberg, Vice Provost for Research Mary Lidstrom, and Rep. Frank Chopp, Washington State House of Representatives.

In addition to membership meetings, PSO hosts a series of brown bag lunches with an array of topics, such as UW Care Link, dispute resolution resources, the importance of humor in the workplace, and positive self-management in challenging times.

We also publish a semi-annual newsletter, and award scholarships to help our members pursue professional development opportunities.

Continues on the other side

Professional Staff Perform Many Roles at the University

Student Life

Academic Advisors
Admissions Counselors
Financial Aid Counselors
Registrars
Resident Directors
Program Managers
Program Directors

Administration

Assistant Deans
Human Resource Managers
Labor Relations Specialists
Principal Assistant to Executive Heads
Training Specialists

Research

Field Specialists
Laboratory Managers
Mathematicians
Scientists

Fiscal Administration

Administrators
Auditors
Budget Analysts

Operations

Engineers
Facilities Managers
Grounds Managers
Safety Supervisors

Development

Development Directors
Major Gift Officers

Cultural Productions

Graphic Designers
Museum Directors
Theater Managers
TV and Radio Producers

Information Technology

Network/Software Engineers
Systems Programmers
Web Developers

Hospitals

Hospital Administrators
Health Professionals

Activities

- Award quarterly scholarships for continuing and professional development
- Represent professional staff on Faculty Councils
- Fall and spring meetings
- Brown bag presentations
- Monthly e-mail communication

Current Goals

- Continued recognition as a trusted and valued partner in the University's governance
- Incorporate the 2008 survey results in our regular planning
- Increase the number of members giving financial contributions
- Increase member involvement

We need you to get involved

- Attend brown bag presentations, fall and spring meetings
- Join a PSO committee
- Come to a PSO Board meeting
- Run for a PSO Board position
- Contribute to PSO via payroll deduction

PSO wants to hear from you! PSO needs your participation!

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