



*Professional Staff Organization  
of the University of Washington*

# NEWS

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November 2005

## From the Chair

Welcome back to another exciting year at the University of Washington. And a special welcome to those staff members who have recently joined the University system.

I hope you take a moment to read our latest newsletter. Along with periodic e-mail updates sent to the membership, the PSO Board uses its newsletter to highlight upcoming activities and pass along information of general interest.

In this issue, you will read about what the Outreach and Membership Building Committee has in store for this year and how you can get involved. You'll also learn about funding opportunities to support your professional development. In addition, information about the current Board of Directors is included so you can get to know us a little better.

I invite you to visit the PSO website (web address is listed in the box below) where you will find a link to our 2004-05 annual report. For those of you unfamiliar with the Organization, you will get a better idea of our activities through the report.

Finally, I'd like to express my personal thanks to those staff members who have volunteered their time to serve as PSO representatives to the many Faculty Councils. It's

**Read about us at:**

<http://depts.washington.edu/psoweb/>

**Contact Board Members at:**

[psoboard@u.washington.edu](mailto:psoboard@u.washington.edu)

**Email List:**

To subscribe or remove yourself from the PSO list, go to <http://mailman.u.washington.edu/mailman/listinfo/prostaff>

**Professional Staff Organization**

## **Autumn Meeting**

**Wednesday, November 16, 2005**

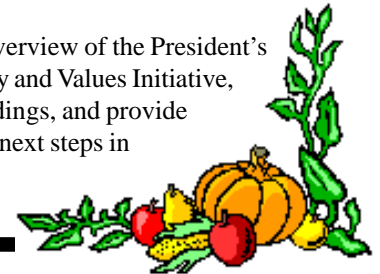
**Walker-Ames Room, Kane Hall**

**11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

Please join us for our autumn membership meeting. Light refreshments will be served at 11:30 a.m., and the program will begin at 12:00 p.m.

Guests will include Ana Mari Cauce, Executive Vice-Provost; Jill McKinstry, Head, Odegaard Undergraduate Library; Joanne Suffis, Acting VP for Human Resources; and Bob Roseth, Director of News and Information.

They will provide an overview of the President's Leadership, Community and Values Initiative, highlight the initial findings, and provide information regarding next steps in the process.



vital that professional staff have representation at these council meetings. Knowing how busy you are, I very much appreciate your involvement.

Also, many thanks to the PSO Board of Directors. Almost half of the Board was newly elected during spring quarter, and it's wonderful to see new faces around the table and to hear different points of view. Thanks for all the assistance you've provided me during my first few months as Chair.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns you want to share with the Board, please contact us at [psoboard@u.washington.edu](mailto:psoboard@u.washington.edu). We look forward to hearing from you.

~Alicia Palacio, PSO Chair

## What is the PSO?

The Professional Staff Organization (PSO) represents the issues and concerns of professional staff to the university administration, the campus, and our local community. All professional staff are members of the PSO.

Established in 1990, over the years the PSO has provided information to legislators, represented professional staff on faculty councils and committees, and worked to improve communication and build camaraderie among the professional staff throughout the university system. The PSO also collaborates with the UW administration on other issues relevant to professional staff.

We host meetings in autumn and spring quarters, provide funding for professional development through various scholarships and grants, and publish a biannual newsletter. Check out our website at <http://depts.washington.edu/psoweb/> to learn more about the PSO and the various opportunities to get involved.

## Join the Network & Get Connected



While every UW professional staff member is automatically a member of the Professional Staff Organization and receives e-mail communications from the

Organization, this year the Outreach and Membership Building Committee hopes to raise awareness about the activities of the PSO and build a stronger sense of community among its members.

This year's goals include expanding membership participation in committees and working groups, improving internal communications and collegiality among members, increasing awareness about the Organization's initiatives and activities, and providing new types of member support and professional development. We hope to launch new activities that will focus on these goals, such as holding regular networking events (for example, coffees and brown bag lunches), making sure that our literature is available at key UW staff events, and developing mentoring and peer support programs to help new members transition successfully into the UW community.

The Outreach and Membership Building Committee welcomes new ideas for fostering community and sharing information and resources. We will meet once or twice per month to plan activities and develop strategies for getting the word out about the Professional Staff Organization.

If you are interested in lending your time, energy, and ideas to these efforts, contact committee Co-Chairs **Carrie Perrin** at [cyoung@u.washington.edu](mailto:cyoung@u.washington.edu) or **Michelle Hall** at [hallm@u.washington.edu](mailto:hallm@u.washington.edu).

## PSO Supports Pro Staff with Scholarships & Grants

One of the Professional Staff Organization's goals is to foster employee professionalism and encourage professional development. The PSO Scholarship and Grants Committee's activities support this goal by providing funding to both individual professional staff and professional staff employee groups. Read below to learn how you can support your own and your colleagues' professional and career development.



### Professional Development Scholarship

Since 1997, the PSO has awarded over \$25,000 to professional staff through our *Professional Development Scholarship*, supporting employees' professional development through workshops, classes, conferences, and other opportunities. Professional staff from across the UW system have received up to \$250 a year to help with registration, tuition, and travel-related costs.

### Greg Stark Memorial Scholarship

The *Greg Stark Memorial Scholarship* has been established in memory of Greg Stark, former UW Web Computing Specialist and PSO Board Member who was greatly respected by all who knew him. This scholarship specifically promotes staff *team-building* and *collaborative leadership skills* and will provide up to \$250 for an individual who is pursuing these goals. Applications should address how the proposed training or activity supports team building and leadership—skills and qualities that Greg exemplified.

### Professional Development Grant Program

The *Professional Development Grant Program* supports formal and informal professional staff groups and associations. Grants of up to \$500 may be used to support activities such as classes, programs, or speakers that have a broad appeal throughout the University and contribute to the professional and career development of professional staff members.

We encourage you to apply for any of these PSO-sponsored funding opportunities to enhance your own or your colleagues' professional development. Applications are accepted on a quarterly basis, with one award allowed per employee or group per year (autumn through summer quarter). The next application deadline is **December 2, 2005**. For additional information, instructions, and application forms, visit the PSO web site at <http://depts.washington.edu/psoweb/>.

## Board Member Biographies

More detailed biographies can be found on the PSO website at <http://depts.washington.edu/psoweb/>.

**Paul Ahlstrom** works at the University of Washington, Tacoma, as a Project Manager in the Office of Student Affairs. He has a BA in Business Administration, Information Systems.

**Suzette Ashby-Larrabee** has worked in Financial Management, Division of Management Accounting and Analysis, for 10 years. She received a BA from Barnard College in Government and an MA in International Affairs from George Washington University.

**Nancy Bradshaw** is the Assistant to the Chair of the Faculty Senate. She has worked in a range of areas during her 17 years in higher education, all of which have been in academic affairs.

**Elizabeth Campbell** has been with the University since the late 1980s. For the past year, she has been working with the Professional Staff Program Review Committee and was so impressed by the energy and work by the team, she decided to run for a position on the Board. Elizabeth volunteers for the Northwest Organization for Animal Help.

**Robert Corbett** is Coordinator of New Programs, and currently works with the Faculty Council on Academic Standards on issues of university-wide academic policy. Robert has been at the UW for 11 years.

**Ronald Eng** has been Geology Collections Manager at the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture since 1991. He has worked at a university museum for the past 26 years. Ron has a BA in Biology from Boston University and an MS in Invertebrate Zoology with a minor in Ecology from Northeastern University. Ron was first elected to the PSO Board of Directors in 2001, was Vice Chair in 2002, Chair in 2002-2003, and is currently the PSO Board Seattle Campus Representative.

**Marina Ferguson** graduated from the University of Missouri with degrees in Education and Medical Technology. Currently, Marina provides pathology support for the Vascular Imaging Laboratory of the Department of Radiology.

**Cris Fowler Mesling** has been a staff member at the University of Washington for the past six years. She holds a Masters in Library and Information Science from the UW.

**Marilyn Gray** has worked at UW Seattle since 1978. She served as PSO chair in 2003-04 and has worked on the strategic plan and the review of the professional staff program.

**Michelle Hall** has been a staff member at the UW since 2000 with the Program on the Environment. Michelle holds an MA in English.

**Bryce Hanson** has worked in the Information Technology Department for Housing and Food Services as Technical Supervisor since March 2004. Bryce has a BA in English from Western Washington University.

**Alicia Palacio** has worked at the UW on and off since the late 1970s. Currently, she works in the Office of Development and Alumni Relations as the Assistant to the Associate Vice President for Constituency Programs.

**Carrie Perrin** has been a professional staff member for nearly all of her 17 years at UW Seattle. She is currently Director of Academic Services and Immediate Past Chair.

**Bob Roseth** was the first president of PSO. He has been at the UW since 1977 and is the director of the Office of News and Information. Bob has a BS from MIT (political science) and an MA from the University of Missouri (journalism).

**Suzanne St Peter** is the Co-Director for the Council on Social Work Education National Center for Gerontological Social Work Education, or Gero-Ed Center. Suzanne received an MSW from Washington University in St. Louis in 1999.

**Mark Schoen** is Assistant Director of Finance with the Department of Student Activities and Union Facilities. He has 17 years of experience with the university. Mark earned a BA at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and an MA in public accounting at the University of Washington.

**Alison Stevens** is Director of Program Development with International Outreach Programs, where she has been employed since 1993.

**Judith Yarrow** is Managing Editor of *Northwest Public Health*, a biannual journal of the School of Public Health and Community Medicine. She has been with the School since 2001. Judith has led PSO's Web development and Professional Staff Organizational Models Research committees.



## Scholarship Committee Needs You

Interested in helping your colleagues increase their professionalism and career-related knowledge and skills? Want to exercise your judgment and critical thinking? Think you might enjoy providing money to peers seeking professional development? If so, join the PSO Scholarship Committee!

We seek one or two professional staff members to join the committee. The committee meets approximately one hour per quarter to review applications, so the time commitment is minimal. This is a great way to get to know other professional staff and provide a valuable service to your colleagues. Contact **Suzanne St Peter** at [sstpeter@u.washington.edu](mailto:sstpeter@u.washington.edu) for more information.

## Bothell Looking For PSO Rep



The PSO Board currently has a vacancy in our Bothell Campus position. If you are a professional staff member at the Bothell campus, either full- or part-time, and want to represent your campus and help build a bigger and better professional staff organization, please contact **Alicia Palacio**, PSO Chair, at 685-9925 or [amp@u.washington.edu](mailto:amp@u.washington.edu).

Let's hear a round of applause for you – professional staff members – for the remarkable commitment you have demonstrated through your recent contributions to the University through the Faculty-Staff-Retiree Campaign for Students. This campaign, which has already raised over \$1 million, was designed to enable faculty, staff, and retirees to establish endowed fellowships and scholarships to support graduate, professional, and undergraduate students. Your contributions will help make our University a better place for years to come.



~Alvin Kwiram, Chair  
Faculty-Staff-Retiree Campaign for Students

## Parting Words

*Thanksgiving Day comes, by statute, once a year;  
to the honest man it comes as frequently as the  
heart of gratitude will allow.*  
~Edward Standford Martin



## Contribution Agreement

Thank you for your interest in the payroll deduction contribution program. To participate in the program, you must be a permanent or temporary employee of the University of Washington and appointed as Professional Staff.

Please complete this form and mail to the PSO Treasurer, Mark Schoen, Box 352230. Lump sum contributions may also be mailed directly to the treasurer.

NAME	(LAST)	(FIRST)	(MI)	UW I.D. NUMBER
POSITION TITLE	DEPT. NAME		MAIL STOP	CAMPUS PHONE
TRANSACTION TYPE:	<input type="checkbox"/> BEGIN MY DEDUCTION	<input type="checkbox"/> CHANGE MY DEDUCTION	<input type="checkbox"/> STOP MY DEDUCTION	
AMOUNT OF DEDUCTION PER PAY PERIOD (See PSO brochure or website for suggested amount based on annual salary.)				
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1.50 (MIN)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2.50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$3.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ OTHER (\$.50 INCREMENTS)
SIGNATURE _____			DATE _____	
By my signature, I hereby request and authorize the University of Washington to deduct the amount specified from my salary. I understand this deduction will start on the first pay period after the authorization is processed and continue for the duration of my employment, unless I elect to change the deduction amount or stop the deduction by notifying the Professional Staff Organization in writing.				