Message from the Staff Council President

After many years of employment at Appalachian, I felt it was time to give back and agreed to serve as Vice President of Staff Council, I had no idea within a few months I would be serving as President. It has been an honor to serve you in this position and a wonderful experience to add to my work career.

Appalachian’s staff have worked hard together to accomplish many things this past year and I am very proud of all the service projects that were supported by Staff Council. There were also some “first time” events for staff this year: the Director of State Personnel met with Staff Council officers to hear our concerns; as President, I gave a presentation about Staff Council to Appalachian’s Board of Trustees; an Emergency Loan Fund was established to provide interest free loans to staff; and the Chancellor issued a memo for managers and supervisors to support staff participation in campus events.

I am confident that our hard work and progress will continue and prosper under the leadership of Bob Charlebois, our next Staff Council President.

I encourage staff to consider giving back by participating in Staff Council, or serving as a Staff Council officer. Thank you for your support, and I look forward to continuing our work together.

Marlena Van Vliet
Staff Council President

2009-2010 Staff Council Executive Board

Marlena Van Vliet, President
E-Mail: vanvliet
X3042

Kim Jones, Vice President
E-Mail: joneske
X6995

Bob Charlebois, President Elect
E-Mail: charleboisr
X2204

Stacy Sears, Past President
E-Mail: searssr
X6111

Amy Sanders, Secretary
E-Mail: sandersaa
X2744

Tami Johnson, Treasurer
E-Mail: johnsontd
X2878

www.staffcouncil.appstate.edu

Our quote for the year is:

“Nothing changes until something moves.”—Mac Anderson.
A Message from the Chancellor’s Office

In North Carolina, funding for education remains a top priority for Governor Perdue and the members of the General Assembly; however, the current economic climate continues to threaten our leaders’ ability to protect budget priorities for The University of North Carolina (UNC) System. As you know, the final state budget cut higher education funding by 5.2% and Governor Perdue immediately froze 5% of the allocated funding. Essentially, Appalachian’s state budget was reduced over 10% or by $15 million. Fortunately, Appalachian’s share of UNC enrollment growth funding materialized, and the cuts did not impact our campus as dramatically as they impacted others within our system. On many campuses, positions were eliminated and employees were laid off. Our university leadership team protected permanent employees and, as a result, no permanent staff employees were laid off at Appalachian.

The budget outlook for the 2010-2011 year continues to look bleak. The UNC Board of Governors has established the following budget priorities as they relate to funding by the North Carolina General Assembly:

1. Accept the Alternative Board of Governors’ Tuition Increase – The Alternative Tuition Increase requires all tuition revenue to remain on the campus rather than being placed in the General Operating Budget for the state. Additionally, the Alternative Tuition Increase requires that tuition revenue support need-based financial aid, efforts to improve retention and graduation rates, and other items that specifically support the academic mission of the institution. For Appalachian, the Alternative Tuition Increase would translate into approximately $3.13 million in revenue that would be used to address critical student needs such as additional financial aid, counseling center staff, and academic advisors.

2. Commit to providing $45.8 million in need-based financial aid for the state in order to meet the increased financial need of students, preserve existing funding, and restore financial aid funding that was cut from the 2009-2010 budget.

3. Minimize additional cuts to the UNC System recognizing that any additional cuts will damage the academic core of the institution.

Chancellor Peacock and members of the Board of Trustees support these UNC funding priorities because they are critical to Appalachian’s commitment to providing a rigorous and relevant educational experience for both undergraduate and graduate students. Please take a moment to email or call your state representatives to voice your support for these funding priorities*. Representative Cullie Tarleton and Senator Steve Goss represent Watauga County; contact information for these individuals and other elected representatives for other counties can be found at http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/.

In my role as Director of External Affairs and Community Relations, I will work closely with the North Carolina General Assembly to insure that the interest of Appalachian’s students, faculty and staff are represented in Raleigh. I value your concerns and encourage you to contact me regarding any questions or feedback you have regarding legislative affairs. My email is mccrackensd@appstate.edu.

Susan McCracken
Director, External Affairs and Community Relations

*Editor’s Note: If you choose to contact your state representative, the use of University resources (telephone, fax, computer, etc.) is not permitted.

Staff Assembly

“Staff Has a Heart” food drive a success

ASU collected 766 lbs of food and other items during the week-long food drive sponsored by Staff Assembly. The UNC-System-wide food drive was held February 8 – 12. Because of weather, ASU added a few extra days to our drive and delivered everything to the Hunger and Health Coalition on Friday, February 19, 2010. Thank you to everyone who brought food and to all who were collection points:

Elaine Berry, Diana Barbee, and Jackie McInturff, RCOE
Ariel Ashe, Lucy Brock CDC
Carol Carpenter-Stoutd, Wey Hall
Bob Charlebois, Broyhill Inn
Peggy Eller, ASU CDC
Sali Gill-Johnson, Turchin Center for the Arts
Tony Grant, Fine & Applied Arts Dean’s Office
Sandy Hicks, Math Department Walker Hall
Sheryl Kane, College of Business
Denise Marsh, Health Promotions, Varsity Gym
Andrea Mitchell and Lou Ann Church, University Hall
Cathy Scott, Plemmons Student Union
Cathy Ziegler, Dougherty Admin Building

Thank you to Tony Grant and Diana Barbee who helped deliver everything to the Hunger and Health Coalition. February is a tough month up here in the mountains. Our contributions will make it possible for those less fortunate to have some hot food this winter. It was great to see staff, faculty and students come together to support this state-wide effort. Thank you so much! ASU does have a heart and it is beating loud!

Appalachian’s Staff Council Day of Service Food Drive

Appalachian State Employees Have a Heart
Once again the Appalachian family came through in supporting our community by contributing to the 29th Annual AppKID’S Shopping Event. It was indeed a special day for 90 less fortunate children from our community who cherished the special attention while shopping for their needed clothing and school supplies. Our goal was $13,200 but you felt the event important enough to give more than $15,000. Thank you!

We had over 125 volunteers, most ASU employees and a few graduate students who helped in some capacity. Employees used their community service leave to help with driving, shopping, or overseeing the coordination of the day. One shopping mentor said she participated every year because it was a wonderful way to spark her feelings for giving in the holiday tradition.

We wish to thank the Watauga County school counselors for choosing the children, and a special thanks to Business Affairs and the Chancellor’s office for providing two meals. We also recognized the service of the Broyhill Inn staff for their exceptional service.

Special thanks to Laura Young who coordinated the program. Thank you also to campus employees who contributed supplies for the backpacks as well as to the Watauga Global Community students for their assistance in stuffing the backpacks. On behalf of the Staff Council’s AppKIDS Shopping Committee, thank you all our volunteer participants. For those of you wondering, AppKIDS is an acronym for “Kindness in Donations and Service.” To learn more about this program, see http://staffcouncil.appstate.edu/index.php?module=pagesmith&id=5

Please help us again in 2010! We have set the AppKID’s Shopping Day for November 19, with an alternative of December 3 (in the event of inclement weather).

Sincerely,
Staff Council’s AppKIDS Shopping Committee:
Laura Young, Chair
Cathy Ziegler, Co-Chair
Diana Barbee
Carol Carpenter-Stoudt
Peggy Eller
Teressa Hollars
Sheryl Kane
Diane Lowenberg
Andrea Mitchell
Janice Smith
Janice Voss
Lisa Watson
Kelly Wolcott

Gina Kelley/English Department
Gina Kelley has been a member of the Appalachian Family since October 2008. She currently works as an administrative support associate in the Department of English, in the College of Arts and Sciences. “I truly feel that I am part of a great university that cares about its students, faculty, and staff,” Gina said.

“I work closely with the interim chairperson, Dr. James Ivory, and Amy Greer, the budget coordinator,” Gina said. “The department has approximately 90 professors, [with whom] I am privileged to work with on a daily basis. I enjoy assisting the diverse needs of the students, faculty, and other staff members, which makes my office environment an enjoyable place to work.”

Along with her work, Gina is able to relax with a little laughter, which makes the aspects of her work day lots of fun, she says.

“My favorite hobby is writing,” Gina said. “I have accomplished my first young adult fiction novel titled ‘Valle Girl,’ of which I am need of a literary agent. I have also entered the Amazon Breakthrough Novelist for Young Adult Fiction competition and have been selected to participate in the second round of the competition.”

Gina says that in five years she hopes to be a published author. Her dream is to write fiction novels as a career.

“I have such eclectic taste that it is hard to pinpoint exactly where I would want to live permanently,” Gina says. “I would go for a house in the South of France for the winter, a beach house in the British Virgin Islands, and a penthouse in New York.” Of course, she says she would settle for a nice cottage on the North Carolina coast.

Gina is also currently in the graduate program in student affairs practice, where she is working on a master’s degree in career counseling. She also has two “adorable” cats, Graybee and Dwezil. They are 16 and 15 years old, respectively.
New District 3 Scholarship Established – Andrew “Andy” Kirby Memorial Scholarship: District 3 has established a memorial scholarship in the amount of $500 to honor long time SEANC supporter and District Executive Board Member Andrew “Andy” Kirby. Andy died October 15, 2009, after a courageous battle with cancer. Andy was retired from the North Carolina Department of Transportation after 45 years as a bridge supervisor and was a US Army veteran. District 3 is pleased to honor our SEANC brother, Andy Kirby, by awarding a $500 scholarship in his name to a deserving Avery, Mitchell or Watauga County resident. Applicants for the SEANC Scholarships – Category I, II, III will be considered for the Andrew “Andy” Kirby Memorial Scholarship.

*YOUR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM* One of the outstanding benefits of SEANC membership is its scholarship program for active and associate members, their spouses and dependent children.

*CRITERIA* Is your mom or dad a state employee/retiree and a SEANC member? Are you a SEANC member? If so, you may be eligible to apply for a SEANC scholarship.

Scholarships are awarded in the following categories:

*CATEGORY I: Financial Need*

*CATEGORY II: Merit*

*CATEGORY III: Member Only* (working full time and enrolled in at least 6 semester hours of undergraduate work or 3 semester hours of graduate work)

Find out more about the criteria from the SEANC website at http://www.SEANC.org by clicking the benefits link under the Membership tab.

*APPLY*

From the SEANC website www.SEANC.org <http://www.SEANC.org> you may complete the Electronic Application - Click on application. Go to file>save page as to save on computer. Open saved file and type in fields to complete. Print and give appropriate pages to references and transcript officers. Mail to the district scholarship chairperson, Teresa Johnson, 147 Rivendell Court, Boone, NC 28607.

*DEADLINE*

SEANC scholarship applications are available from January to April each year. The deadline to apply is April 15. You must reapply each year to be considered.
NEW EMPLOYEES:
Mary Banks  
Tiffany Carter  
Roy DeBord  
Aaron Gersonde  
Kelly Henson  
Hugh Howey  
Kenneth Isaacs  
Chad McCrary  
Mildred Norris  
Jeremy Ray  
Scott Roberts  
Daniel Walker  
Patrick Weddell  

College Awareness Program  
Bookstore  
Building Services  
Upward Bound  
Chancellor's Office  
Bookstore  
LES  
Landscape Services  
Building Services  
Zone Maintenance  
Motor Pool  
Health Promotions

PROMOTIONS:
Charlie Carroll  
Sharon Huntley  
Curtis Jones  
Kristen McGinnis  
Rachel Taylor  

Landscape Services  
College of A&S  
Physical Plant Administration  
Student Accounts  
Controller's Office

TRANSFERS:
Teanna Setzer  
Elizabeth Waters

History  
Institute for Health and Human Services

RESIGNATIONS:
Michael Almond  
Kelly Lockwood  
Chelsea Small  
Wendi Vandenberg

Chancellor’s Office  
Counseling Center  
Alumni Affairs

PRINTING EXCELLENCE IN THE CAROLINAS
ASU Printing & Publications wins PICA Award

The Printing Industry of the Carolinas, Inc. (PICA) recognized ASU Printing & Publications of Boone as a 2009 PICA Awards winner. Since 1966, the PICA Awards have been the premier symbol of excellence for the graphics industry in North and South Carolina. The PICA Awards demonstrate a company’s commitment to excellence in graphic communications.

ASU Printing & Publications received four Best of Category Awards: Commencement Programs designed by Angie Norris, Greeting Card & Announcements designed by Bob Powell, Admissions Spring Reception Announcements designed by Ed Gaither, and Three Cups of Tea Fliers designed by Ed Gaither. Three Special Judges Awards: Fall Convocation Programs designed by Angie Norris, Parent Connections designed by Angie Norris, and Field Hockey Brochures designed by Bob Powell. Two Awards of Excellence: H1N1 Cards designed by Angie Norris and C•GAIT Golf Classic Brochures designed by Angie Norris. All pieces were printed in-house by Charlie Perkins and Chris Earp.

Winners were announced March 6, 2010, at the 43rd Annual PICA Awards Banquet, held at the Embassy Suites Golf Resort & Spa in Concord, North Carolina. The PICA Awards program is open to all printing companies in the Carolinas.