

SMCM Staff News

From Joe Urgo's letter to the St. Mary's College Community:

It is with pride that I announce the formation of the St. Mary's College of Maryland Staff Senate. The Staff Senate will contribute to shared governance at the College by providing a forum and a voice for staff members—similar to the role played by the Faculty Senate and the Student Government Association.

The Senate will foster a spirit of unity, pride, and cooperation by being recognized as participants in advising the president of the College, the Board of Trustees, and the faculty on decisions that will impact the College. Members of the St. Mary's College of Maryland staff will be able to openly engage with the Senate on matters concerning the College community. These issues will be discussed further during the formal meetings of the Senate and discussed with the president of the College and his/her officials as necessary.

I look forward to working closely with Staff Senate President Richard Edgar and with all senators to continue to strengthen our community and enhance our mission as educators. Our work together should provide students with a professional model that is positive, memorable, and, I hope, worthy of emulation when they leave St. Mary's College as alumni.



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SMCM Announces the Launch of a Staff Senate

Welcome to the first Staff Senate newsletter. As president, I am humbled to be the leader of the fine group of senators that you elected last June and, more importantly, to represent all of you as we begin a new and exciting time here at the College. During the year I hope that all of us will embrace the work that we all do as staff and encourage each other to be engaged in our work.

Over the summer, your senate leaders began to build the structure of **your** staff association. We have been in our quiet phase and now we are excited to begin working with all staff, along with faculty and students, to build a positive and productive workplace for all of us.

As president, I believe that all employees (staff and faculty) are extremely important in the growth of the College. I am very excited to lead our senate. I hope that in future years that the St. Mary's College of Maryland Staff Senate will become a driving force in the direction of the College, working side by side with the faculty and the president, to enhance the overall experience at the College. I also believe that we can become a national leader for other colleges that are interested in beginning a staff senate to represent them.

The reason many of us work at a college is that we change lives. I have a poster on my wall that I live by. It says, "A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I drove....but the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child." I hope that you will join me in thinking, every day, of that quote and remembering you do not go unnoticed.

Let's all work together to continue to make St. Mary's the place that we have come to love and that some of us call our "second home." Please stop one of the senators to share your thoughts and dreams for the College. If you have questions about how you can become involved in the Staff Senate please talk with any of the senators or executive council. Feel free to drop me an email or stop by the office of admissions to chat about the possibility of becoming involved with us.

Again, thank you for being involved and for giving me the opportunity to lead your organization.



Meet the Staff Senate



Mac McClintock

- Works in Human Resources
- Likes reading, volunteering with groups that bring about change, the Cleveland Browns and the Cavaliers
- Home state is Ohio



Bob Brown

- Works in CTSS
- Likes to swim
- Birthplace: Del Rio, Texas



Rachel Brooks

- Works in Housekeeping
- Likes to cheer for the Dallas Cowboys!
- Birthplace: Leonardtown



Irene Olnick, historian

- Works in Business Office
- Likes to knit, read, and watch the Phillies
- Birthplace: Bellefonte, PA



Elizabeth Clune-Kneuer, secretary

- Works in Institutional Research & Reporting
- Interesting fact: Got engaged in Target and The Enterprise ran a story about it.
- Birthplace: Cherry Hill, NJ



Lucy Myers

- Works in Kent Hall
- Likes volunteering with 2nd district fire and rescue
- Birthplace: St. Mary's County



Rich Edgar, president

- Works in Admissions
- Likes motorcycling, cooking, soccer, gardening
- Birthplace: Springfield, PA



Derek Young, vice president

- Works in Residence Life
- Likes reading and music
- Birthplace: Baltimore



Kelly Smolinsky

- Works in Residence Life
- Likes to do yoga
- Birthplace: Sellersville, PA

Meet the Staff Senate



Clinton Gilbert

- Works in Residence Life
- Likes to sing, play piano, hang out with friends
- Birthplace: Owings Mills, MD



Charles (Bobby) Butler

- Works in Housekeeping
- Likes Westerns with Clint Eastwood, detailing his car
- Birthplace: Leonardtown



Dana Cullison

- Works in CTSS
- Likes to shop
- Birthplace: Leonardtown



Cheryl Colson

- Works in the Library
- Likes cake decorating, painting, reading
- Birthplace: Philadelphia



Dana Van Abbema

- Works in Career Development Center
- Likes bargain shopping and hanging out with her girls
- Birthplace: Fond du Lac, WI



Gail Wood

- Works in Montgomery Hall
- Likes to garden and go to the beach
- Birthplace: Leonardtown



Adam Werblow

- Works at Waterfront
- Loves the NFL
- Birthplace: NY, NY



Brianne Weaver

- Works in Athletics
- Likes outdoor recreation, teaching wellness, foreign travel, landscaping
- Birthplace: Alexandria, VA



Lee Capristo

- Works in Publications & Media Relations
- Likes to run, bike, swim
- Birthplace: San Rafael, CA



Lisa Youngborg

- Works in Student Affairs/Dean of Students office
- Likes Cross stitch, cooking and Navy football - Fear the Goat!
- Birthplace: Torrance, CA



Solomon the Seahawk with Barbara Williams of the Office of Advancement

St. Mary's by the Numbers:

236,081

Number of visits in September to www.smcm.edu

30,000

miles driven by Admission Office staff during the fall recruiting season

Top 10 Most Visited Websites

1. Homepage
2. Admissions
3. Students
4. Directory/Search
5. Library
6. Academics
7. Faculty/Staff
8. About
9. Academic Catalog
10. International Education

Staff Senate Committees

Professional Development

Mac McClintock (chair), Bob Brown, Brianne Weaver

Elections

Derek Young (chair), Cheryl Colson, Adam Werblow

Communications

Lee Capristo (chair), Rich Edgar, Paula Ropshaw, Dana Van Abbema, Lisa Youngborg

Awards & Recognition

Clinton Gilbert (chair), Lee Capristo, Kelly Smolinsky, Gail Wood

Bylaws

Dana Van Abbema (chair), Bob Brown, Elizabeth Clune-Kneuer, Cheryl Colson, Derek Young

Social Connection

Cheryl Colson (chair), Rachel Brooks, Dana Cullison, Paula Ropshaw, Sandy Robbins, Kelly Smolinsky, Marsha Wilcox

Finance

Irene Olnick (chair), Lucy Myers, Adam Werblow

Staff Senate Mission Statement

St. Mary's College of Maryland is committed to developing and recognizing the contributions of the full range of its professionals as they work toward achieving the college's mission. The St. Mary's College of Maryland staff senate shall be the official representative body of the college staff. The senate offers a voice for all staff, endeavors to enhance the day-to-day work environment, and promotes a sense of community and respect across campus by fostering open communication with the college president, senior administration, faculty, students and the board of trustees.