

STAFF COUNCIL NARRATIVE

The Staff Council, in keeping with the mission of The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD), is an advisory body through which eligible staff members can convey information and make recommendations to the President regarding interests and concerns of the staff of the University. The Staff Council is constituted with the goal of continually improving University operations and the well-being of UTD's employees. The Staff Council is constituted to address matters of general concern to the UTD community and, in particular, to members of the UTD staff.

The Staff Council has created four standing committees which will help enhance UTD staff in the following areas: Benefits Committee, Communications Committee, Staff Development Committee, and Fund Raising Committee. These committees represent and set goals to ensure we are advising staff in relation to benefits and development. Also, we make sure we get the information to our constituents. We have fundraisers to make sure we can operate financially sound to supplement existing benefits. These committees have been made separately of our operating guidelines.

Over the years, the Staff Council has made great strides in advising the UTD President of important matters of concern. The matters generally come to the Staff Council in the form of a suggestion via our online suggestion form. These suggestions are examined on an individual basis. The suggestions are presented to the Staff Council for vote and then forwarded to the appropriate university official, or an Ad Hoc Committee is formed to research the suggestion and make a proposal to the UTD Staff Council and to the President. Suggestions are presented to the Staff Council on a monthly basis and are reviewed by the Staff Council for appropriate action. During the

tenure of the Staff Council, they have made proposals to have staff representatives on all university-wide committees. The Staff Council has requested to have staff representatives on all administrative level search committees for all President and Vice President positions. The Staff Council makes the recommendations for these appointments. The Staff Council also made great strides in getting a tuition reduction for staff members in 2004.

The Staff Council consistently works on ways to improve the UTD community as well as themselves yearly. Much work has been accomplished over the years by following our operating guidelines, establishing AD Hoc committees, and utilizing our standing committees to bring forth positive change.