



Council members attend monthly meetings that are not open to the public. This brief highlights non-confidential topics that may be shared widely with staff. Any questions can be directed to the linked resources or to askUSAC@psu.edu.

Guest Speakers

At the March 16th USAC council meeting, USAC members were joined by two speakers. The first speaker, Dovizia Long, Director of Labor & Employment Relations (LER), discussed LER's role interacting with unions and reviewing Penn State policies, and also answered questions. The second speaker, Officer Shelly Stevick from the Penn State University Police and Public Safety (UPPS), discussed the Community Oriented Policing Unit active shooter protocols and resources. UPPS's [Penn State Active Attacker Response Program website](#) contains a variety of resources, including a [training video](#).

Committee Updates

- The Awards Committee closed [nominations](#) for the annual USAC Staff Awards on March 1st and is reviewing submissions. The committee is planning the USAC awards ceremony for May 2023.
- The Communications Committee oversaw announcements in Penn State Today regarding [USAC membership applications](#), [USAC Staff Awards nominations](#) and the [USAC Annual Summit](#). Committee members continue to update USAC's social media channels and [website](#).
- The Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) Committee reviewed the University's newly launched [DEIB dashboard](#) to discuss findings and implications for university staff and USAC. The committee intends to use information gathered from the dashboard and the [2020 Community Survey](#) to determine topics that could be discussed at upcoming USAC events. The committee is also preparing questions for the upcoming DEIB Dashboard town hall.
- The Logistics and Events Committee is helping to coordinate the USAC Summit in March and the travel meetings in May and June. The committee is also planning the third installment of the *USAC Presents* series, which will focus on home gardening with a speaker from the Penn State Master Gardeners program. This program will be held virtually on April 25, 2023 at 1:00 pm. [Registration is available](#) through the Penn State LRN system.
- The Membership and Elections Committee accepted USAC membership applications for the 2023-24 academic year through April 1st and will now begin reviewing applications. The committee is also organizing the election of USAC Leadership for 2023-24.
- The Outreach Committee finalized details for the USAC Summit, which was held on March 30th, 2023. The committee is also planning two travel meetings, one in May to the Harrisburg campus and one in June to the New Kensington campus.

- The History Committee is compiling historical information regarding USAC and preparing to contribute records to the University Archives. Because available USAC historical information is limited, current or former USAC members are encouraged to share documents that may be relevant to creating a historical picture of the council and its activities. Please email askUSAC@psu.edu if you have any records to share.

Little known facts or benefits: Positive Paws Program

A Positive Paw is an easy way to recognize your peers and express gratitude. Simply write a note and give it to a person who made a difference to you or those around them. You can request Positive Paws sticky notes by emailing askusac@psu.edu or download them through the [Positive Paws website](#).

Actions and reminders

- University Park faculty and staff are receiving new id+ cards at their home address via USPS mail. Upon receipt, cardholders must activate the new id+ card through id.psu.edu/activate.
- The Penn State community is encouraged to report potential issues about behavior that is inconsistent with the [Penn State Values](#). A 24/7 [Penn State Hotline](#) is available or call 800-560-1637.
- Staff are encouraged to review the [Penn State Active Attacker Response Program](#) website and the Run, Hide, Fight™ model, which recommends that those involved in an active-shooter situation run if they can, hide if they can't, and fight as a last resort.
- SAVE THE DATE: DEIB update for students and employees will take place on April 20th at 2 p.m. Dr. Bendapudi will provide progress and plans regarding efforts to foster diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging across the University. She will be joined by [Dr. Jennifer Hamer, special adviser for institutional equity](#) and interim associate vice provost for educational equity. You can watch the event live at <https://liveevents.psu.edu/> or find the recording on the same site after the event takes place.

Next Council meeting

The next USAC meeting will be held Thursday, April 20th, 2023.

University-wide committee involvement and staff opportunities available

USAC officers and members sit on a variety of external committees, which can be found at [Impact | PSU Human Resources](#).

Valuable links

- Show a colleague how much you appreciate their efforts with a [Positive Paw](#)
- Recognize a fellow Penn Stater by submitting a "[WE ARE](#)" shout out in Penn State Today
- Find COVID-19 information at <https://virusinfo.psu.edu/>
- Don't miss important announcements and news from [Penn State Today](#)

What is USAC and Member Benefits

The University Staff Advisory Council consists of dedicated staff who act in an advisory capacity to central administration; explore issues, policies and practices that impact staff; suggest revisions to policies and new policy initiatives; and advocate for staff welfare and development. USAC serves the PSU president and administration through the vice president of human resources and accepts new members annually.

Contact us: askusac@psu.edu

USAC Website: <https://hr.psu.edu/university-staff-advisory-council>

LIKE us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PSUUSAC/>
Connect with us on [LinkedIn](#), [Yammer](#), or [Instagram](#)