Join NUSAC!

We are now accepting
NUSAC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS FOR 2006-2007

Fill out the enclosed application, deadline is June 2, 2006

NUSAC Membership

NUSAC members are selected from a diverse pool of staff from both campuses, various schools and areas, and exempt and non-exempt roles. There are 18 NUSAC members, who bring their experience and talent to improve the work environment for all staff.

Eligibility Requirements:
• Be a regular full or part-time staff member with at least two years of continuous service.
• Be willing to work as part of a team.
• Be available to attend monthly general council meetings (alternating between the Chicago and Evanston campuses).
• Be available to attend additional monthly meetings for one of three working sub-committees.
• Be willing to serve a three-year term.
• Have your supervisor’s approval to participate on NUSAC.
• You can find a copy of the application online at: http://www.northwestern.edu/nusac/applicationform.html

NUSAC is a volunteer organization. Members must have an agreement with their supervisors that some of their work time will be spent attending NUSAC meetings, participating in NUSAC-related events, and working on projects on behalf of NUSAC.

The application process:
Employees interested in becoming members of NUSAC must complete an application form (attached). All applications are reviewed by current Council members. Finalists are interviewed by the Council. Recommendations for appointment are forwarded to university President Bienen.

NUSAC MISSION STATEMENT

NUSAC is a group of volunteer staff members appointed by the President to represent employee concerns to the University administration. NUSAC solicits input, investigates concerns, and addresses issues with the University administration, formulates recommendations and advises in decision-making processes regarding matters of concern for staff. NUSAC is dedicated to maintaining a positive work environment for staff and promoting excellence within the University community.
May Brownbag Events

HEALTH CARE BENEFITS AND POSSIBLE CHANGES!

NUSAC invites you to attend our spring quarter Brown Bag Sessions on the possible changes to the University Health Care plans.

Guy Miller, Associate Vice President of Human Resources, will discuss how the university is approaching the rising cost of healthcare and its impact on the university's employees and the University. Mr. Miller will give an overview of the university's strategy and the possible changes to the health care options that could be implemented as early as January 2007. You do not want to miss these presentations on these important changes to the University’s health care options. This presentation is relevant to all university employees that are eligible to participate in the health care plans. Bring your lunch and your questions. Coffee and tea will be served. We look forward to seeing you there!

Evanston Campus:

Wednesday, May 17, 2006
Norris Center
Ohio State Room
Noon - 1:30pm

Chicago Campus:

Wednesday, May 24, 2006
Kellogg School of Management
340 East Superior Street
Room 347, Bill Flecher Room
Noon - 1:30pm

State of the University Address 2006

On Thursday, February 9, 2006 President Henry S. Bienen delivered the annual state of the university address. In his remarks, President Bienen spoke about the university’s progress to achieve the highest order of excellence, our strong financial position, and the increase in university research dollars, the implementation of the energy conservation policy, and the continued increase in admissions applications. In addition, President Bienen recognized staff who are retiring in the coming year and the staff members who were honored for service excellence awards, as well as the numerous faculty members that received honors this year.

At the conclusion of the address, President Bienen took questions from the audience on various topics including future construction plans for the Evanston and Chicago campus, the effectiveness of the university’s energy policy, campus parking, the upcoming changes to university benefits, employee retention, and the balance of the academic curriculum at the university. Employees may view the president’s full address including the question and answer session online by visiting the president’s page and clicking on the video link for February 9, 2006. The URL is http://www.northwestern.edu/president/addresses/. The full text of the address may also be found on the president’s page at http://www.northwestern.edu/president/addresses/06state.html.

A “Holiday” from Your Benefit Premiums

In June 2006, the university will be making a change to the way payroll deductions are applied for health care and other benefit plan coverages. Currently, deductions taken from your current month's paycheck actually pay for next month’s coverage (so, deductions in May pay for June coverage). However, in June, no amount will be deducted for health, dental, vision, long term disability, and life insurance coverages.

Don’t worry you will still be covered! Deductions will continue to be made for the flexible spending accounts, short term disability, long term care, and retirement plans. In July, your regular benefit contributions will be deducted from your paycheck, only these contributions will apply to your current month’s coverage. Additionally, in July benefit plan deductions for bi-weekly employees that were originally taken only from the second paycheck, will now be taken from the first and second paychecks of a month.
2006 Employees of the Year Luncheon and Awards

Evanston Campus 2006 Employee of the Year
SABIN GURUNG, Program Assistant, Kellogg School of Management

Chicago Campus 2006 Employee of the Year
ELENI GARBES, Managers of Operations, Cancer Center

Length of Service Awards Luncheon and Employee of the Year

97 employees serving the university for 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years were recognized at the annual Staff Service Recognition Luncheon held on May 3, 2006 at the Hyatt-Regency Hotel. Honorees were congratulated and personally thanked by President Henry S. Bienen and Senior Vice President Eugene Sunshine for their commitment and service to the university. The Employee of the Year was also announced for both campuses. Congratulations to this year’s finalists and winners.

Evanston Finalists
Mary Anne Peruchini, Business Administrator, MCC Biomedical Engineering
Stephanie Teterycz, Director Summer Session, School of Continuing Studies

Chicago Finalists
Nancy Flowers, Program Assistant, The Law School
Andrena Logan, Research Administrator, MCC Molecular Pharmacology and Biological Chemistry

Evanston Employee of the Year

SABIN GURUNG, Program Assistant, Kellogg School of Management

"Sabin is a prized member of our administrative team. He is flawless in completing tasks, despite having to manage simultaneous requests from multiple faculty members. He thinks two steps ahead of the faculty, takes initiative to make sure everything goes well, and volunteers whenever there is a need. Sabin’s performance in regular responsibilities and special projects has significantly improved our quality of life. This year, one special request was to develop a web-based recruiting management system that allows faculty to review applications and submit assessments online and this new system is amazing. Another special request was to manage the acquisition of equipment that now produces CDs for our courses in house at a fraction of the cost that contractors had charged. In short, Sabin is the ideal role model for what a staff member should be. There truly aren’t sufficient words to detail the depth of positive emotion that radiates from him. In fact, I cannot think of a nicer human being."

Chicago Employee of the Year

ELENI GARBES, Managers of Operations, Cancer Center

"Eleni has made a huge difference to our numerous faculty and staff. This year, an extraordinary event happened in our professional life. The amount of new space we opened, and the number of facilities we moved into were unprecedented in our history. Not only did Eleni manage our relocation to a new building, but also the relocation of several centers from other departments and of new faculty from across the country. She was at the center of all the changes to make sure our place is exemplary by meeting with every leader to identify needs, being on site early in the morning and late at night to make sure things were put in the right place, and even waking in the middle of the night to help run tests. In a daunting position, with a Rolodex beyond compare, Eleni has been indispensable to fulfilling the promise of our facility and our mission. She has been the person behind the scenes who has by far made the greatest impact on our facility to make it world class."
Spotlight on Stacy Oliver

Stacy Oliver is the Assistant Director at the Center for the Writing Arts. Stacy has been at Northwestern for 9 years. Her previous position on campus was Program Coordinator for the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

What has been your role in NUSAC?
This is my third year as a NUSAC council member. My main contributions have been on the Communications sub-committee. I’m very proud to have been instrumental in the updating of the quarterly newsletter, brochure, and our website. I’ve been the chair of the Communications committee for the past two years.

Why did you join NUSAC?
It’s consistent with my philosophy to be active in all aspects of my life. To me it’s vital to have a voice and be proactive as a citizen of my world, city/state, neighborhood and work environment. It all goes hand-in-hand. We spend quite a bite of our lives at work, so why just show up and stand on the sidelines when you can be part of the what’s happening.

What do you want staff to know about NUSAC and how can staff be more involved with the University?
To make a difference you need to be involved. You can be part of the problem or part of the solution. NUSAC has made great strides to work with the NU administration so we are at the table during the beginning stages and having our voice heard for new plans to be implemented that affect staff. The reality is that change takes time. But NUSAC is an ever-present voice in the long journey of creating that reform.

What would you like to see NUSAC accomplish in the next year?
Parking and the way people move around campus are going to be provocative topics for the next few years. NUSAC will be looking to the whole NU staff community to get their input so the administration has a well-rounded view of the needs of faculty, staff and students.

What do you like to do outside of work?
The list is endless! If you see me on campus and stop to chat we could talk about: belly dancing (which I’ve taken classes for the past 4 years), making beaded jewelry, singing and performing in cabarets and coffeehouses (did that for many years and I’m going to be getting back to performing in some clubs soon! You read it here first!), gardening, yoga, and ballroom dancing with my husband.