The Staff Council of Saint Mary’s College provides a forum for open communication and on-going dialogue among staff and between staff and administration.

“This is an exciting year for us. We fought for and received commuter benefits. We worked very hard to better the tuition waiver benefit. There’s so much work being done.” Alle Porter

New Faces, New Opportunities

Eleven staff members were elected to the Council last year, joining five other members working on a number of initiatives this 2013-2014 academic year. At the upcoming March 13th meeting the company Bright Horizons will provide information on a possible new back-up dependent care benefit for staff with child and elderly dependents. The age limit for the tuition waiver benefit has finally increased from 21 to 25. Vice President for Finance Pete Michell will explain staff salary assumptions for 2014-2015 at the May 13th meeting. Three personal and professional development workshops are scheduled for spring 2014 including Wellness and Technology on February 26th, Making Your Nest Egg Last on March 12th, and Self Advocacy in the Workplace on March 26th. Check the next page for locations and times. Lastly, the Council will be recruiting new members in April 2014. Anyone interested in joining should visit the website at www.stmarys-ca.edu/for-faculty-staff/staff-council.

MEETING SCHEDULE

All staff members are encouraged to attend Council meetings.

MARCH 13th  12pm-1:30pm  Claeys, Soda Center
APRIL 15th  12pm-1:30pm  Hagerty, DLS
MAY 13th  12pm-1:30pm  Hagerty, DLS
What is Staff Council?

The Council exists to contribute to the mission of the College, to the growth and welfare of its staff employees, and to the promotion of a positive and supportive work environment.

Are you in the Spotlight?

Throughout the academic year the Council randomly selects a staff member each month to recognize in our Spotlight on Staff:

- October 2013 - Gail Garrett
- November 2013 - Sue Norton Costa
- December 2013 - Sue Peters
- January 2014 - Sharon Sobotta
- February 2014 - Erik Coloma

Read their stories on the Council website:

[www.stmarys-ca.edu/for-faculty-and-staff/staff-council](http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/for-faculty-and-staff/staff-council)

We are:
- 16 staff members
- 4 standing committees

We work on improving:
- Benefits and compensation
- Development and climate
- Outreach and communication

Janet Amador
Brandi Balkema
Joan Iva Fawcett
Gillian Cutshaw
Tracey Donaldson
Jeanne Gilpatrick
Jane Joyce
Mike Jung
Scott Logan
Sara Mumolo
Rita Pearson
Collin Pugh
Irene Umipig
Carole Wolf
Elise Wong

"I want to bring each and every initiative to a logical conclusion, whether that means moving forward or not. But we're going to stick to the issues that are important to staff."

JANE JOYCE, STAFF COUNCIL CHAIR

Wednesday, February 26th
Wellness & Technology:
Join us for a conversation on how technology can support wellness.
3pm Women’s Resource Center

Wednesday, March 12th
Making Your Nest Egg Last:
TIAA-CREF representative will be on campus to answer your retirement questions.
3pm Dryden Hall

Wednesday, March 26th
Self Advocacy in the Workplace: Pursue title changes, negotiate raises, and navigate being offered a new job.
3pm Staff/Faculty Lounge

iju1@stmarys-ca.edu

Staff Council

[http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/for-faculty-staff/staff-council](http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/for-faculty-staff/staff-council)