



## USAC MEETING BRIEF

**June 2023**

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](mailto:askUSAC@psu.edu).

### **Guest Speakers**

At the June 15<sup>th</sup> USAC council meeting, USAC members were first joined by Jeremy Bean from the Office of Change Management and Organizational Excellence, who provided an update on the [Optimized Service Teams](#) (OSTs), the new ecosystem of shared support and services across the University. Twelve past and current USAC members who work in the OST workstream areas have been designated to serve on the six work groups and help provide staff perspective to the decision-making processes. The second speaker was Justin Schwartz, Executive Vice President and Provost, who answered questions from USAC members and discussed his goals as provost. These goals fall within three categories: leading efforts for President Bendapudi's goals as part of the early stages of strategic planning, academic innovations, and organizational excellence and long-range planning

### **Committee Updates**

- The Awards and Recognition Committee held the [USAC awards ceremony](#) on May 19<sup>th</sup> in Old Main. At the ceremony, three staff members were given awards and outgoing USAC members were recognized for their service.
- The Communications Committee is working on upcoming press releases, creating the USAC Annual Report, drafting the monthly meeting brief, and updating USAC's social media channels and newly redesigned [website](#).
- The Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) Committee is working to identify potential speakers to bring in for USAC and the entire University community on DEIB topics.
- The Logistics and Events Committee helped to coordinate logistics for the June 15<sup>th</sup> community engagement meeting at the New Kensington campus.
- The Membership and Elections Committee completed selection of new members for the 2023-24 academic year. The new members will join the council and begin their 3-year term in August.
- The Outreach Committee planned the community engagement meeting on June 15<sup>th</sup> to the New Kensington campus. Campus representatives from New Kensington, Greater Allegheny, Beaver, and Shenango were in attendance physically and a representative from Fayette joined virtually for the discussion.
- 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](mailto:askUSAC@psu.edu) if you have any records to share.

### **Little known facts or benefits: Did You Know: PSU Fun Facts**

- Penn State's original school colors were pink and black
- Penn State is the 3<sup>rd</sup> most populous city in Pennsylvania on football Saturdays
  - Beaver Stadium is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest stadium in the world

### **Actions and reminders**

- Review information on [how to identify and prevent the spread](#) of spotted lanternflies.
- 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.
- Looking for a reason to visit University Park? Upcoming events in the State College area include the [57th Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts](#) July 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and [Ag Progress Days](#) August 8<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Next Council meeting**

The next USAC meeting will be held Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

### **University-wide committee involvement and staff opportunities available**

USAC officers and members sit on a variety of external committees, which can be found on the [USAC Impact page](#).

### **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
- 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](mailto:askusac@psu.edu)

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

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