

New Year, New Council, New Goals

08-09: A Year In Review

2008-2009 was a busy year for the Bloomington Professional Council. We started out the year inviting the professional staff to take a survey that would priority rank their concerns and issues and also provide a mechanism for them to comment on those issues. The rankings came back with the top three being: 1) salary and financial issues, 2) healthcare issues, 3) retirement issues. We continued to discuss priorities and initiatives at our annual retreat in September 2008 and decided to focus the year on three general initiatives with which the entire University was engaged: 1) Diversity, 2) Sustainability, and 3) International engagement. Having established the survey ranked priorities as well as our focused initiatives, we then began to align our agendas to those items and invite guests to speak at our meetings based on them.

In addition to our guest speakers, our committees were very active and hosted 5 "Know Your Campus" events, collected over 1,000 books to be donated to Middle Way House High Rise and for Aurora Alternative High School and gave away 16 Professional Council grants to our colleagues to present at conferences, prepare research, and gain more professional development opportunities.

2009-2010 Goals:

On Friday September 19, the members of BPC got together at McCormick's Creek State Park to discuss the upcoming year as well as goals and areas of focus for the organization and the individual committees. Below are the three areas of focus and goals for the 2009-2010 Bloomington Professional Council:

1. Performance Management

-Work to establish training within the RC's for HR personnel, particularly for supervisors who administer reviews.

-Contact other CIC and Big Ten universities to see what, if any, performance management programs are in place and, if so, how they are implemented

2. Visibility

-Utilize WTIU and WFIU for interviews and public service announcements

-Encourage the use of BPC nametags when members attend campus functions

-Establish a "Frequently Asked Questions" section on the website, or host a column, "Ask a Professional" in which information is generated by BPC members on topics of interest.

3. Civility

-Stress management –BPC will be looking into hosting a speaker specializing in "verbal Judo" either in conjunction with or in addition to a stress management fair highlighting diet, exercise, and relaxation as ways to combat stress.

- Also in each month's newsletter, encouraging civility through the use of inspirational quotes.



Committee Spotlight

The BPC has 4 standing committees who work together to plan events, create awareness, award grants, and serve as the leadership for the organization. Also, throughout the year, BPC members are asked to serve on various taskforces or search committees to ensure the voice of the professional staff is represented.

This month we will be spotlighting the **Communications and Marketing Committee.**

The focus of this committee's effort is to provide information about upcoming events and meetings to all IUB Professional staff. In addition, they work together to keep the BPC website updated and provide a monthly newsletter. If you have additional feedback for this committee, please contact one of the members listed below:

Tiana Iruoje, Chair	5-5313	tiwillia@indiana.edu
Cindy Curvin	6-3106	ccurvin@indiana.edu
Liz Peck	5-0635	epeck@indiana.edu
Kelly Thacker	5-8581	kelthack@indiana.edu
Doris Wittenburg	6-1183	dwwitten@indiana.edu
Jonathan Bolte, Volunteer	5-0330	bolte@indiana.edu

Important Information

Human Resources:

Did you know that there is a plethora of information on the IUHRS webpage? Many of your questions regarding insurance, time off, and tuition remission can be answered by a few simple clicks of the mouse. Check out <http://www.indiana.edu/~uhrs/> for more information.

Civility Guidelines:

As one of the goals of the Bloomington Professional Council this year, we want to encourage more civility among and between colleagues. Therefore, each month in our newsletters, we will provide an inspirational quote that focuses around the idea of civility and being a good colleague in tough work and economic times.

In addition, we will work to provide information that will help in creating better working environments for all of us. This month we will be focusing on email etiquette. UITS has listed on their webpage <http://uits.iu.edu/page/aemp> some very helpful reminders about sending emails. Check out some of them below:

- Don't send confidential or secret information (such as credit card information, Social Security numbers, or passwords) through email. Email messages are more like postcards than sealed letters; they pass through many computers to get to their destination.
- Never use email to harass others or otherwise use it in such a way that it will bother people. Limit the number of email messages you send and save.
- Don't send email to large groups of people who might not be interested in your message. Never send spam mail, and remember that any form of chain mail is illegal.

**"NO ACT OF KINDNESS, NO
MATTER HOW SMALL, IS EVER
WASTED."**

-AESOP

Know Your Unit Reps:

Do you know what unit you are in? How about who your unit reps are?

Each department on campus is assigned to one of 7 units, of which each unit has 3 representatives who serve on BPC. Your unit representatives are here to serve you. If you have concerns or issues, please contact one of your designated representatives so that they can share your thoughts with the council. To find out more about your representatives and units, visit our webpage at: [Representatives & Committees](#)

Upcoming Events:

Know Your Campus:

Mather's Museum in October- More information to follow.

Special Personal Training Offer for IU Staff & Faculty:

During the month of October, IU Campus Recreational Sports is offering IU faculty and staff the opportunity to purchase four personal training sessions for the price of three! **RS membership is not required for personal training.** Make an appointment today by calling 855.7772 or visiting RS Member Services for your free initial consultation to get started!



NEXT BPC MEETING:

Wednesday October 21, 2009
Bridgwaters Lounge
Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center
3:00-5:00 p.m.

Special Guest: H. "Pete" Goldsmith, Dean of Students will speak at 4:00

