Dear University of Utah Staff Community,

Now that Fall Semester 2022 is in full swing, I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself and the Staff Council. My name is Lisa Rigtrup, and I’m this year’s Staff Council President. You may have already seen me out and about – I was able to meet many of you at the home opener football game, and even more of you at Employee Appreciation Day.

One of the first things folks say to me when I introduce myself as a representative from the Staff Council is, “What is the Staff Council?” It’s my hope that we’ll be able to answer that question for you in the coming months.

**What is the Staff Council?**

The Staff Council is a select group of about 30 full-time staff members from the University of Utah campus and hospitals & clinics systems. Representing staff from every corner of campus, we pursue initiatives designed to promote staff welfare, development, and opportunities. We also provide a forum for communicating recommendations to University leadership about issues and topics of concern to our staff community.

**How do I stay up to date on what the Staff Council is up to?**

Please check out our beautiful new website. You can also follow us on social media!

**Are there any staff events coming up?**

Always! You can find out about upcoming events for staff by visiting our website’s “Events” page.

**Can I join the Staff Council?**

We will be recruiting new members to join the Council this coming spring. Learn more about eligibility and time commitments at the link below.

You’re invited!

I would also like to extend an invitation to all staff members to attend our monthly General Meeting, which is open to the public. We’re taking a break for the holidays, but our next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 2:00 PM.

Lisa Rigtrup
Staff Council President
University of Utah

Tell Us What is Important to You

Please take a few minutes to fill out a very brief survey so that we can better understand how we can work for you!

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One of the most influential disability rights activists in US history tells her personal story of fighting for the right to receive an education, have a job, and just be human.

A story of fighting to belong in a world that wasn’t built for all of us and of one woman’s activism—from the streets of Brooklyn and San Francisco to inside the halls of Washington—Being Heumann recounts Judy Heumann’s lifelong battle to achieve respect, acceptance, and inclusion in society.

Paralyzed from polio at eighteen months, Judy’s struggle for equality began early in life. From fighting to attend grade school after being described as a “rehab hazard” to later winning a lawsuit against the New York City school system for denying her a teacher’s license because of her paralysis, Judy’s actions set a precedent that fundamentally improved rights for disabled people.

As a young woman, Judy rolled her wheelchair through the doors of the US Department of Health, Education, and Welfare in San Francisco as a leader of the Section 504 Sit-In, the longest takeover of a governmental building in US history. Working with a community of over 150 disabled activists and allies, Judy successfully pressured the Carter administration to implement protections for disabled peoples’ rights, sparking a national movement and leading to the creation of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Candid, intimate, and irreverent, Judy Heumann’s memoir about resistance to exclusion invites readers to imagine and make real a world in which we all belong.

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Ladinality Affinity Group

Affinity groups are an opportunity for all staff and faculty members to gather around a united purpose to provide a greater connection to our workplace community.

Date/Time monthly meetings
Second Thursday of the Month @ 11:00am-11:50am MST in Teams

Mission/Vision/Values statement
The group purpose is to build a community to share experiences, resources and offer support to the University Ladinality community. Our initial goal is to have a regular monthly meeting and quarterly social events and/or trainings to aid the personal and professional development of our members.

Contact Information
Listserv: latinidad@lists.utah.edu
Liaison: Natalia Torres – natalia.torres@utah.edu

If you have an interest in creating an affinity group on campus, please review our existing groups to make sure you are not submitting a duplicate. There may be an existing group you could join! If you are interested in joining a group, please contact the affinity group contact listed.

Contact Us
Face employee page: Staff Council EDC Committee
Email: stacouncil.utah.edu

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COVID-19 Resources

For the latest University of Utah COVID-19 guidance and resources, please visit coronavirus.utah.edu.

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