The Staff Advisory Committee (SAC) represents the interests, opinions, and concerns of the non-exempt staff by communicating these concerns to the Allegheny Executive Committee (AEC). For more information on the purpose of this committee, please visit the BYLAWS and refer to Section 1 (Purpose).

Linda Lees, Chair
Ruth Dunton, Vice Chair
Rhonda Hershelman, Treasurer
Chris Bell, Secretary

Tricha Young
Sarah Holt
Jennifer Kessner
Reese Campbell
Kelly Wright
Amanda Allen
Pauline Lanzine

Have You Heard?

Even though the Methodist church has voted to deny the LGBTQ community inclusion to certain church rites, President Mullen and Allegheny College stand by our Statement of Community. Chaplain Jane Ellen Nickell and Dean for Institutional Diversity Kristin Dukes encourage anyone with questions to seek them out for support.

SAC website: sites.allegheny.edu/sac/

A Bittersweet Farewell to President Mullen

President Mullen has set goals for the campus that will play out for years. One goal that stands out is his ability to connect. He made it one of his missions to learn names and faces. One SAC member remembers her first semester, and how puzzling and pleasantly surprising it was to be personally recognized. Jennifer Kessner mused, “President Mullen seemed to know who I was. We were introduced during my time filling in as a temporary employee, and now that I had a full-time job, he remembered who I was and where I had ended up. That meant so much, and it hit me then that there was a real dedication on campus to feel in every way the Statement of Community.”

Linda Lees, current Chair of SAC, was on SAC and in the interview process for President Mullen’s start. She stated how amazed she was for his ability to remember the campus community members. “I felt an immediate connection. I knew he would have that with the whole community. And it’s with everyone. It’s with Physical Plant, even the [expanded] campus community for the contracted workers. Just his demeanor, his connectivity, his caring of the college. [President Mullen] has gone through some tough times in his 11 years with us. He’s never lost sight of what we’re here for.”

As his time comes to a close, the campus has shown recurring respect for President Mullen. Before the men’s basketball whiteout game on February 1, 2019, it was announced that the David V. Wise Sport & Fitness Center was renamed to the James H. Mullen, Jr. Arena. His humble gratitude said it all.

SAC member Sarah Holt mentioned having been his neighbor for the past 11 years. “I am forever grateful for Jim and Mari’s friendship on and off campus and the special connection they have had with my two sons over the past 11 years. They will be missed! Both Allegheny and the Meadville community will surely feel the loss of this special family. Best of luck to the Mullens as they head off to their next life’s adventures!

President Mullen finishes his final year with Allegheny College on June 30, 2019. It has been a bittersweet few months of memory-making for many. As we welcome Dean Hilary L. Link, our very first female president, to campus in the next few months, let us remember the importance of this feeling of family, and the Statement of Community. Farewell, President Mullen, and a hearty congratulations to future President Link!
WINTER WARM UP COFFEE HOUR

With almost 60 people in attendance, we enjoyed a well-deserved coffee hour in Carr Hall on Wednesday, January 9, 2019. With coffee, quiche, and pastries catered from our very own local Tarot Bean, it was nice to get away for a moment. We even had to ask them to bring more coffee!

Instead of tradition raffles, Sarah Holt, one of our SAC members, came up with the idea of having employees answer one of three questions, and to have us guess which one they answered. The pile was both funny and relatable. The questions and some of the best answers are below.

1. What is your New Year’s Resolution?
2. What’s the weirdest thing you’ve ever eaten?
3. If you were an animal, what would you be and why?

To Not Make any resolutions

Duck—Calm on top, working like a nut case under the water

A gator, obviously

Chalk

Ranch Crickets

I would be my cat. He has the life!

Octopus balls

A wombat because it’s the weirdest thing I’ve ever eaten, but I’ve resolved not to eat them in 2019.
Strange things are happening to the Allegheny College campus buildings! Can you figure out what? Each answer is a play on words including a building name. Good luck!

Across
1. Deep concentration in the Chapel?
3. Plumber in the Language Dept.?
5. Essay in the old Library?
7. Country singer in the Bell Tower?
8. Unit of area in the Fitness Center?
9. Siblings in the Dining Hall?
10. Theft in the Psych Dept.?

Down
2. Dragster in Envi. Sci.?
4. Watercraft in the Board Room?
6. SNL alum in the Registrar’s Office?

EclipseCrossword.com
Staff Spotlight

Amanda Allen
Building Coordinator

Name: Amanda Allen
Department: Communication Arts and Theatre
How long you’ve worked at Allegheny: 2 Years
What committees are you currently or have you previously been involved in: SAC

What is your personal philosophy? Live every day like it is your last!
Where is your favorite place to be? In nature
What is your favorite thing to do? Snowmobile!!!!!!
What’s the weirdest job you’ve ever had? It’s not weird - but a bartender?? Lol!
What’s one thing you couldn’t live without? My son (family including dogs), snow, and motor sports! Only one thing isn’t a fair question.
What is the greatest challenge you have had to overcome in your life thus far? Losing both of my parents just as I was becoming an adult.
What is the one thing you cannot resist? Cookie Dough! And snuggles from my son!
What is your greatest fear? Dying young like my parents
Where is the best place you’ve traveled to and why? Riviera Maya - because it was just so different than any place I have ever been, and the historical Mayan ruins were fascinating!
What does true leadership mean to you? Not only leading but encouraging others and setting an example worth following.
Which one would you want most - flying cards, robot housekeepers, or moon cities? Robot housekeepers, so I have more time to enjoy life.
What would you do (for a career) if you weren’t doing this? Teaching Art - (what my original degree is)
If you could do another job for just one day, what would it be? I like to drive things, so maybe a test driver of some sort!
What would you most like to tell yourself at age 13? Enjoy life while it is simple.
What are your three most overused words/phrases? LOL! I say “like” a lot!
How do you define success? A true meaning of success is a very personal thing that seems to change based on what phase you are at in life. Right now as a young parent, my definition of success is seeing my son grow and becoming a human that is kind and respectable.
What is the best book you have ever read? Well, since most of the books I read these days are for kids - “Little Boo” is about a little pumpkin seed who wants to grow big and scary right now, but has to be patient and learn as he grows, such a sweet little story we are still reading it almost every night! And “The Kissing Hand.”
Tell us something that might surprise us about you.
I used to race motocross and was sponsored by a big team.

SAC Liaisons

Campus Life & Community Standards - Linda Lees
CoDE - Linda Lees
FFC - Ruth Dunton & Rhonda Hershelman
Strategic Planning - Linda Lees

Here’s What’s Happening

Spring Break: March 16–24
Last Day of Classes: April 29
Exams: May 2–7
Commencement: May 11

We Want to Hear From you!
If you have a suggestion or a concern, please contact any member of SAC. We value your voice and will keep anything anonymous when requested.

This edition of the Staff Sentinel was created by Jennifer Kessner, with content and editing help by SAC.

SAC website: sites.allegeny.edu/sac