I have been asked to write this edition’s letter from the Staff Council. So many topics come into mind, so many get tossed out about as quickly as they enter. First, let me introduce myself. My name is Tricia Losavio and I am the Director of Recreational Sports and the Staff Council Vice President. What’s Recreational Sports you ask? Recreational Sports provides students, faculty and staff with opportunities for leisure, fitness and friendly competition. Our department is located in the Activity Center, a 100,000 sq. ft. state of the art recreational facility that just celebrated its 10th year.

I am always amazed when someone on campus tells me or one of my staff members, that they did not know everything that our department has to offer. In the four years I have been here, we have added a group exercise and personal training program, expanded the club sports and intramural program, and added various non credit courses. Not to mention the large variety of fitness and weight equipment, 4 basketball courts, a multipurpose room, 4 racquetball and 2 squash courts. A few of our special events include the Cardboard Boat Regatta, March Madness Frenzy, Dancin’ 4 a Cause, and Dive in Movie. Our philosophy is that we have something for everyone so just Be Active.

The spring semester and the new year brings two things: resolutions and Spring Break. The Activity Center is usually filled with people who have made a resolution to work out more or those that are trying to lose a few pounds to get into “bikini” shape. Before anyone starts a rigorous workout routine I recommend consulting your physician or speaking to one of our personal trainers. We also have a variety of nutritional pamphlets and healthy eating guides. Our staff is trained to assist you with questions on how to use the equipment and provide simple workout routines to help you become more comfortable in the fitness area.

Now let me move on to another topic.

Staff Council provides a service to you the staff. We are your voice on campus, but we cannot voice your opinions if you do not share them with us. The Staff Council meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month at 9 a.m. and are open to everyone. Each building is a part of a district and each district has representatives. The Staff Council website lists upcoming events, programs and services sponsored by the Staff Council and includes a suggestion link. If you have an idea that will help to streamline things on campus or if you are disgruntled about something, tell your representative, fill out a suggestion form or come to a meeting. We want to hear from you.

The Staff Council is subdivided into four committees. The Communications Committee is responsible for the SUN Newsletter, coordinating meet and greets and the fall forum. The Benefits Committee is responsible for reviewing staff members’ concerns regarding benefits and awarding staff scholarships. The Staff Development Committee is responsible for reviewing ways in which staff can benefit from training programs for career/professional development. The Fundraising Committee is responsible for creating new ideas/ways to generate money for the Staff Council Staff Scholarships. There are other Ad Hoc committees, such as, the Wellness Committee which provides a variety of wellness tips and programs for the campus community.

As you can see, Staff Council is an integral part of the University. The programs and services I mentioned are just a few among a long list. I encourage you to visit the website; I know you will be amazed at everything we do for you.

I will leave you with two things:
1. Be active and take part in Recreational Sports.
2. Staff Council wants to hear from you, please attend a meeting, visit the website or speak to your representative.

— Tricia Losavio
MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

FEBRUARY 13 STAFF COUNCIL VALENTINE BALLOON & CHOCOLATE SALE!

New this year… In addition to selling red heart-shaped Mylar balloons for Valentine’s Day, the Staff Council will also sell Russell Stover 3.5 oz. heart-shaped boxes of chocolates!

You will be able to buy them from staff volunteers walking around campus or at tables set up in most buildings. The sale will be held Friday, February 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Balloons are $2.50 each and chocolates are $3.50 per box. Or, you can purchase a special bundle of one balloon and one box of candy for $5.00! That’s a savings of $1.00. And, what great gifts for those special people in your life!

Watch your email for more information and news about pre-ordering. All proceeds will benefit the Staff Council Staff Scholarship Fund.

Valentine’s Day Concert

The Dallas Chamber Orchestra will perform Saturday, Feb. 14 at 8 p.m. in Jonsson Performance Hall.

The program will include Salut d’Amor by Edward Elgar, Serenata by Enrico Toselli, Concerto in D Major for guitar and strings by Antonio Vivaldi and The Trout Quintet by Franz Schubert.

UT Dallas students, faculty and staff with valid UT Dallas ID are admitted FREE of charge. $25 for adults, $20 for seniors and $5 for students of other universities. For advance ticket purchases, please call 214-321-1411 or buy online at www.dallaschamberorchestra.org/tickets.html.

WORRIED ABOUT CAMPUS SECURITY?

Attend a UT Dallas Police Dept. Crime Safety lecture Thursday, February 5
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
SU 2.504, Gemini Room
Info: Kendra Penny, 972-883-2331

The UT Dallas Police Department will be hosting a mini lecture relating to vehicle and personal property security. All faculty, staff and students are welcomed to attend and bring your own bag lunch to enjoy during the presentation.

FEBRUARY TRAINING CALENDAR

The Training Calendar for February is now online and available for registration. Offerings include:

- Links to Element K online training
- Conducting Annual Performance Reviews
- SPIN Grant Funding Demonstration
- Managers’-Supervisors’ Roundtable
- FINS (Financial Information Systems) Training – Level 1
- Account Reconciliation Training
- It’s Your Annual Review

To learn more about a specific class, please visit www.utdallas.edu/hrm/training/calendar/February2009.php

Staff Appreciation Day for Homecoming

To celebrate Homecoming, UT Dallas staff and their family get free admission to the basketball games on Saturday, February 7. Please present your Comet Card to gain admission to the games.

Free hotdogs and soft drinks will be available in the multipurpose room of the Activity Center from 12 to 3. Please make reservations by emailing presrsvp@utdallas.edu or calling extension 6259.

Have some refreshments and cheer on the teams on February 7!
MONDAY, FEB. 2
T-Shirt Exchange:
11 a.m.-2 p.m., Student Union. Trade in a T-shirt from another university or a 10+ gallon bag of gently used clothing to receive a free UT Dallas shirt (while supplies last)! All clothing will be donated to local charities.

TUESDAY, FEB. 3
I ♥ UT Dallas Day
11 a.m.-2 p.m., Student Union Lower Level
I ♥ UT Dallas is an event that promotes heart health among the campus community by providing information on nutrition, exercise, and stress reduction. UT Dallas Dining will provide free samples of healthy options available in the Comet Café. Information on reducing day-to-day stress will also be available. Give-aways include T-shirts, pedometers, stress balls, and raffles for free classes and personal training sessions at the Activity Center.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 4
Pep Rally & Spirit Show: 7 p.m., Activity Center
UT Dallas power dancers and cheerleaders will lead the campus community in a pep rally. Meet the homecoming court in person.

Alumni Night with the Dallas Mavericks:
American Airlines Center, 7:30 p.m.
Alumni and their families are invited to a night with the Dallas Mavericks as they play the Portland Trail Blazers. Tickets are available for $15 per person (regular price of $19). Tickets are limited so register online to reserve your spot!

THURSDAY, FEB. 5
Basketball Double Header:
Activity Center
5:30 p.m. — UTD Women vs. Louisiana College
7:30 p.m. — UTD Men vs. Louisiana College
Join the nationally ranked UT Dallas basketball teams as they battle Louisiana College.

Door Decorating Contest
All UT Dallas faculty and staff are invited and encouraged to decorate their doors for Homecoming this year. Winners will be announced at the Women’s Basketball Game (5:30 p.m.) at halftime.

Powder Puff Football Game
10 p.m.-midnight, Main soccer fields
UT Dallas sorority sisters will take on non-Greek women in a powder puff football game. Come out to meet the homecoming court and see the power dancers perform.

FRIDAY, FEB. 6
Homecoming Parade: 12 noon, begins in Lot A
The annual homecoming parade will wind through the UT Dallas campus. Student organizations and campus departments will decorate floats and perform skits for spectators and judges. Barbeque will be served. Free knit caps will be given away.

SATURDAY, FEB. 7
Basketball Double Header: Activity Center
1 p.m. — UTD Women vs. Mississippi College
3 p.m. — UTD Men vs. Mississippi College
Join the nationally ranked UT Dallas basketball teams as they battle Mississippi College. The Homecoming King and Queen will be announced during halftime.
Welcome to the New (or reassigned) Employees at UT Dallas!

OCTOBER 2008
BACON, LINDSEY — Communications Coordinator
KINNARD, KELLY — Director Physical Plant Services
HOLMES III, WILLIAM — Engineering Tech. II
CONTRERAS-GUERRERO, ROCIO — Research Scientist
ALVAREZ, JOSE — Groundskeeper II FM
WILSON, MICHELLE — Director of Sponsored Projects
RAY, MATTHEW — Degree Plan Evaluator I
COLLINS, SEAN — Facility Supervisor
TURNER, HOLLY — Administrative Assistant II
XIONG, KA — Research Associate
CONLEY, AARON — Vice President for Development
JAMES-DORSEY, REGINA — Resume Editor
MA, DONG MEI — Laboratory Helper
SHATZ, LISA — Program Manager
KOMAEE, ARASH — Research Associate
RODRIGUEZ, LUIS — Maintenance Worker III
BELLARD, DAMON — Software Sys. Specialist III
CANCAYA, HAKKI CANDAN — Research Associate
MASON, EBONY — Child Development Associate
HUI, CARMEN KA — Enrollment Services Asst. I
HUDSON, BOBBY — Police Officer II
TUTTLE, JENNIFER — Enrollment Serv. Advisor I
BELLARD, DAMON — Software Sys. Specialist III
PAPADIMITRATOS, ALEXIOS — Research Associate
POLZER, SARAH — Degree Plan Evaluator III
BLAIR, PENELope — Human Resources Rep. I
LEE, LOK MAN WENDY — Computer Programmer I
SCHROEDER, SUZON — Academic Advisor II
GAY, TRUDY — Academic Advisor I

NOVEMBER 2008
HAUSMAN, LEIGH ANN — Computer Systems Technologist
IMHOF, CONNIE — Administrative Assistant II
WELLS, KAREN — Administrative Assistant I
BRITTEN, CALLY — Degree Plan Evaluator III
HAMPTON, JAIME — Master Clinician
RODICK, RHIANNON — Police Communications Operator
DAFONSECA, ALEXANDRE — Research Associate
KAHLER, MICHAEL — Grounds Maintenance Supervisor
GREER, CHINWEOLU — Secretary III
NEAL, DERRICK — Safety Technician II
BENNETT, KEVIN — Maintenance Worker III
JARYSZAK, TALIA — Administrative Assistant I
JORDAN, LEE — Research Assistant I
MILTEER, RICK — Network Support Specialist I
PARK, TAEJOO — Research Associate
SHAH, PRASANNA — Research Scientist
LANTY, K MATTHEW — Electrician III
DORSEY, TIMOTHY — Lieutenant, University Police
KO, WEI-JU — Accounting Coordinator

DECEMBER 2008
BUGG, CHERYL — Grants/Contracts Specialst III
DILLIN, KYLE — Software Systems Specialist IV
HAWTHORNE, LAUREN — Library Assist III
HOPKINS, ROBERT — Compliance Coordinator
SARPONG, CHARMaine — Accountant III
STEPHENS, DONALD — Chief Clerk
WAGNER, ANDREA — Student Dev. Specialist II
BATES, JULIE — Administrative Assistant I
TANG, CHINPEI — Research Associate
ALLEN, TAMiKA — Degree Plan Evaluator III
GUTEN, DENNIS — Web Specialist
JOHNSON, LYNDON — Maintenance Worker II
MARTINEZ, JOE — Audio-Visual Equip. Tech. III
SPENCER, JONATHAN — Grants/Contracts Specialst III
GOLDSMITH, CHRISTOPHER — Software Systems Specialist II
HOPSON, AMANDA — Police Communications Operator

JANUARY 2009
KANTER, ELIZABETH — Research Associate
KARIMIYAN ALIDASH, HOSSEIN — J-1 Visiting Lab Assistant
REEser, JOHN — School Fiscal Officer
GARDNER, CLAIRE — Research Assistant I
MEADERS, AMY — Scholarship Coordinator
REED, AMANDA — Research Associate
DAGDAG, ADORABLE — Guard, University Police
HOKANSON, JENNIFER — Medical Typist II
HUGHETT, SARA — Enrollment Serv. Processor I
MCCRUlMMEN, SANDRA — Guard, University Police
PACE, TRAVIS — Asst. Director Greek Life Programs
PADGETT, TIMOTHY — Information Systems Analyst EM
YU, JING — Research Associate
BERRY, KENNETH — Assistant Director
MASON, EBONY — Child Development Associate
WRIGHT, JAMES — Director, Environmental Health & Safety
AMIDAR, MONALISA — Asst. Dir. Student Life Programs
NUNN, MICHELLE — Administrative Assistant II
RUTH, RAYNA — Enrollment Serv. Advisor II
CAMPBELL, KESHiA — Director
MACIEJEWSKI, MARY — Research Associate
RAO, NEENA — Research Assistant I
KERSEE, DENEETRA — Academic Advisor II
BYRD, STEVAN — Groundskeeper III FM
NUNEZ, ALVINO — Groundskeeper II FM
GOSsLIEE, PAGETT — Director
Staff Appreciation Day is coming in July 2009...

Do YOU have any ideas?

Do YOU have a hidden talent?

Let us know...

Email: jlpatter@utdallas.edu

Judy Patterson, Chairperson

Staff Development Committee