

ON THE MOVE

Council on Staff Affairs Newsletter for VSU Staff

Fall 2002



COSA MISSION STATEMENT

1. Study Staff concerns.
2. Recommend to the President policies and procedures related to classified personnel.
3. Create a forum for two-way communication of ideas.
4. Develop a systematic means for communicating specific actions and feedback concerning all matters considered by COSA.
5. Facilitate the development of job and supervisory skills, compensation, benefits, and welfare of staff employees, classified and non-classified.

COSA OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2002-2003

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Friday, September 27, 2002



In honor of your hard work and dedication to Valdosta State University

President Ronald M. Zaccari
and the
Council on Staff Affairs

Cordially invite you to attend the fourth annual

Staff Appreciation Day
Friday, September 27, 2002 • 11AM- 2PM
Soccer Field, North Campus

Join us for delicious food, entertainment, games, door prizes, and displays

STAFF ID REQUIRED
You must be present to win door prizes

Parking is available or choose the VSU Parking and Transportation Red Shuttle Express

CELEBRATE VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

INAUGURATION INVITATION

The Faculty, Staff, Students, & Alumni of Valdosta State University and Community Friends are invited to attend the Inaugural Celebration & Investiture Ceremony of Dr. Ronald M. Zaccari as the seventh President of Valdosta State University

*Friday the twenty-fifth of October
Two Thousand and Two
at three o'clock in the afternoon*

*Physical Education Complex
Valdosta State University*

Reception to follow in the Student Recreation Center

*For more information please call 229-259-5584
or visit www.valdosta.edu/inauguration*

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MONDAY • OCTOBER 21

7:00 p.m. **Gallery Reception**
The H₂O Project Art Exhibit and featured works of faculty, staff, students, alumni and Dr. Ronald Zaccari will be on display throughout the week.
Fine Arts Building

TUESDAY • OCTOBER 22

7:30 p.m. **Starlight Soirée**
Celebration of the Performing Arts at Valdosta State University
Fine Arts Building
Amphitheatre

WEDNESDAY • OCTOBER 23

5:00-7:00 p.m. **Festival on the Lawn**
West Hall, Front Lawn

FRIDAY • OCTOBER 25

3:00 p.m. **Inaugural Celebration**
Physical Education Complex

STUDENT RECREATION CENTER

The fees for use of the Student Recreation Center are as follows:

Faculty \$60 per semester *or* \$175 per year
Staff \$60 per semester *or* \$175 per year

Spouse \$60 per semester *OR* \$175 per year—Your spouse will be required to obtain a VSU One Card from VSU One Card Services for admittance to the Student Recreation Center. The VSU One Card may be purchased for a fee of \$15. The initial purchase of the VSU One Card will be the only time your spouse is required to pay the \$15 fee.

Guest \$5 per day (limited to one guest per day)—The guest must remain with the member in the Student Recreation Center. Individuals must be at least 17 years of age to enter the Student Recreation Center.

Locker Rental/Towel Rental prices range from \$25–\$60. The price is determined by the size of the locker you would like to rent and whether or not you opt to rent towels.

Hours of Operation

Monday–Thursday	6AM–11:30PM
Friday	6AM–9PM
Saturday	10AM–8PM
Sunday	2PM–11:30PM

Pool

Monday–Thursday	6AM–9PM
Friday	6AM–8PM
Saturday	11AM–7PM
Sunday	2PM–8PM

Climbing Wall

Monday–Thursday	10AM–8PM
Friday	10AM–7PM
Saturday	2PM–7PM
Sunday	4PM–8PM

Hours of operation during semester breaks, summer breaks and holidays will vary. To obtain membership information you may contact Campus Recreation at 229–333–5898.



WAYS TO SAVE

Be sure to carry your VSU ID when you dine out or shop. Many local restaurants and businesses offer discounts to VSU employees. All you have to do is ask and show your ID.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Thank you for your continual support of the Council on Staff Affairs. This last year has been an extremely busy but fruitful one for us. As we reflect on what we have achieved and the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, COSA becomes even more committed to representing the staff of Valdosta State University. I urge you to be involved in what we do by sharing your concerns and ideas with your COSA representatives. Today is a very exciting time to be part of the VSU staff as we grow and change under new leadership and a strategic plan, and as we become an integral part of the shared governance process. COSA welcomes all comments that are directed to the mission and purpose of VSU and issues that may arise of concern to staff. In our seeking to make our workplace better, we mean to improve everyone’s experience coming into contact with Valdosta State in all the ways that they do. COSA looks forward to working with each of you and wishes you a happy and successful year.



Shannon McGee, COSA Chair & VSU 1 Card Services Programmer and Computer Specialist

THE VSU ANNUAL FUND

The VSU Annual Fund consists of annual contributions from VSU’s alumni, parents, friends, faculty & Staff, and corporations & foundations. It is an ongoing solicitation effort to raise funds to support university programs and highest priority needs that are not covered by the funds from the State of Georgia, tuition, and fees.

Your gifts to the Annual fund provide funding for additional student scholarships, faculty development, alumni activities, athletic programs, lab and computer equipment purchases and upgrades, libraries, student research, and other campus events and priority needs.

Providing students with technology, financial assistance, and opportunities to help them reach their full potential is critical. In addition, the percent of participation is a very important indicator to the foundations and corporations we approach for funding. When these organizations consider funding educational institutions they look at the percent of private support the school receives from alumni, parents, faculty, staff, and friends. Participation in the Annual Fund, regardless of the amount, is significant.

Broadening the base of annual donors, raising the average gift amount, and increasing the total dollars given will strengthen the VSU Annual Fund and VSU programs. By making a gift you directly influence programs offered at VSU.

THE STRATEGIC PLAN – ITS LIFE AND PROGRESS

Interview with President Ronald Zaccari – August 28, 2002

By Sue Lampert, COSA Treasurer

Q: Dr. Zaccari, we have heard a lot about the new “Strategic Plan” and its importance in shaping the future of Valdosta State University. Could you briefly explain its purpose?

A: Inherently within an organization is the capability to change, to grow and to expand. When change occurs, it affects relationships within the organization and their capability of working together toward a common goal. The purpose of the Strategic Plan is to provide the structure for intentional change at Valdosta State University. There are five components to the Strategic Plan:

1. The Campus Plan: Last March, I asked 37 members of the faculty/staff/students and Valdosta community to gather together and talk about the strengths, weaknesses, needs, challenges, opportunities of the university. The work groups discussed visionary directions like what does VSU look like in the year 2012? What are the missions we hold for the university to make it the best comprehensive public educational institution in the state of Georgia? From these discussions, there were several topics that surfaced as priorities the university needed to address to actualize the vision and mission thoughts. These were drafted into eight goal statements. (Reader note: the goal definitions may be accessed through the COSA home page, www.valdosta.edu/vsu/cosa.) These goals define the university priorities in becoming its internal vision. Working very closely with the campus goals is another component, the Board of Regents 2002 Strategic Plan. VSU goals will be actualized in concert with the Board of Regents Missions and Goals.

2. The Facilities Plan: Every current building will be reviewed and this question will be asked— “what needs to be done?” Any maintenance or renovation changes will become part of this plan. Another component of the Facilities plan will be Space Utilization. If an office is being constructed by removing interior walls and creating a new space entity, how does this space impact the total utilization plan?

3. The Master Plan: This plan covers all new construction on campus or changes affecting the physical layout of the campus. It deals with a former space and constructing a new space. An example of this would be building a performing arts center on the campus.

4. The Budget Plan: This will be facilitated by a Budget Review Committee. Its actions will affect the fiscal decisions of the entire Strategic Plan. I hope to have a strong technological structure for this component to help Deans, Department Heads, Directors, Vice Presidents prepare and present their yearly budgets.

5. The External Fundraising Plan: A lot of re-structuring is currently underway with the university Foundation. They have an enormous challenge because their plan must be able to relate to all components of the Strategic Plan. For example, when they approach a potential donor for a contribution, they must know the new construction plans. They must know how existing facilities will change to accommodate VSU priorities. They must have the projected student population figures and know what is needed to support that growth.

The Strategic Plan is not an isolated package we work on for a couple of months and file it away. It is long term and dynamic. It will change as goals are achieved and new ones develop. It is a structure that all departments, divisions will use to achieve their own missions and service objectives. It is the structure that will move the university into the future.

Q. Has anyone started to work on the Strategic Plan Goals?

A. The majority of the 37 members from the March Presidential Planning Retreat have committed to serve on at least one Goal committee. I opened the committees to the university community and received an abundant response. We have approximately 100 individuals interested in serving on the eight Goals committees. Each committee will elect a Chair who will be responsible for facilitating the group and accomplishing the Goal action steps.

Q. What will be the role of the new Chief Planning Officer as it relates to the Strategic Plan?

A. The Chief Planning Officer (CPO) will work with the Chairpersons of the Strategic Plan Goal Committees. The CPO will serve as a liaison between the President’s Office and the newly proposed University Planning Committee.

Q. What is the University Planning Committee?

A. This is a new committee appointed by the President. Its purpose is to oversee the eight Strategic Plan Goal Committees and keep them on task.

Q. What message would you like to give the staff about their role in the future of Valdosta State University?

A. The university staff is an integral part of the growth and expansion of this institution. We need staff people expending their energy, bringing purpose and ideas together to resolve problems. We need positive relationships between staff and middle management and support for what each person does in their job. I believe in a caring, concerned and sensitive administration. There will be many new opportunities for staff to be involved in the creative process and assist in moving VSU in productive directions.

INTERESTED IN COSA?

If you are, please submit your name and contact information to Mike McKinley — Election Committee at 249-4989 or e-mail mmckinle@valdosta.edu.

EMPLOYEE OF THE SEMESTER



The employee of the semester for Spring 2002 is Debra Holley, the senior secretary for the political science department.

“Debra Holley is a vital part of the Department of Political Science. She has served as its senior secretary for thirteen years and is truly the center of communications for faculty members and students. In particular, her high level of computer literacy enables her to assist many faculty members meet new technological challenges in their work. She also possesses a special nurturing ability to help work study assistants develop their abilities as they contribute to departmental projects. Debra is also a special friend of students, and they know that she will always go the extra mile to help them with schedules and other advising matters. Her warm, outgoing personality has made her well known in many offices throughout campus, and all of these contacts make the work of the department proceed in a smoother fashion. Her strong commitment to the department makes her richly deserving of this recognition.”

—Jim Peterson

Each employee of the semester receives a framed certificate (frame donated by Accents), a parking pass that gives access to any parking space on campus other than handicapped, and \$100 from the Office of the President. The employee of the semester is a very important part of COSA. COSA takes great pride in this honor because it recognizes the hard work and dedication of our employees here at VSU.

COSA SPOTLIGHTS

CAROLYN WILSON

I started my employment with Valdosta State University on August 17, 2001 and graduated from Valdosta Technical College that fall with an Office & Business Degree. I hold the position of administrative secretary for Dining Services with the responsibilities of working closely with all dining service departments, participating as a liaison between human resources and our office, working within Kronos time keeper software, and a host of other job responsibilities. I am honored to be a Business and Finance representative for COSA and look forward to working closely with all COSA members. I am eager to hear any suggestion that you may have and can be contacted at ext. 5857 or e-mail cawilson@valdosta.edu.



STANLEY JONES

I am a 1997 graduate of Valdosta State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History. I began my employment with VSU as a student assistant in the registrar's office in June of 1996 and shortly after graduation, I accepted my first full-time position in the acquisitions dept. of Odum Library. After eleven enriching months, I returned to the registrar's office as a recorder I in May of 2000 and later promoted to administrative secretary where I was given the opportunity to excel and to grow. Effective Oct. 1, 2002, I will be experiencing a position upgrade to assistant registrar, operations manager. I am very excited about my promotion and look forward to continuing to serve the faculty, staff, and students of VSU in my new capacity. In addition, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone responsible for electing me to the COSA. I consider it an awesome privilege to represent the staff of VSU.



TRISH TAYLOR

I moved to Valdosta from Washington state with Michael Taylor my husband of 32 years who teaches in Mass Media. Since fall 1995 I have been senior secretary in the Office of Student Life (formerly Student Activities), located on the 2nd floor of the University Union and I am currently working on a bachelor's degree in English. My hobbies include gardening, reading (everything but mushy love stories), hiking, and (when the opportunities present themselves) making snowpeople, travelling, and skiing.

