

# Staff Council

Doane University Staff Council Newsletter  
*Fall 2025*

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## **Welcome to a new academic year at Doane University!**

Each Fall brings fresh energy and possibility as our students arrive eager to learn, and it is your dedication and talent that make their experiences transformative!

As we continue Doane's proud tradition of excellence, let us also embrace innovation, collaboration, and care for one another, for our students, and for the communities we serve. Thank you for the passion and commitment you bring to our mission. We wish you a year filled with purpose, connection, and success!

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## **Celebrating Our May Graduating Employees**

We are proud to recognize and celebrate the achievements of our colleagues who have recently graduated. Balancing work responsibilities with academic pursuits is no small feat, and their dedication, perseverance, and commitment to personal and



professional growth are truly commendable.

Congratulations to all our graduates—you inspire us!

- Janet Carriker: Adjunct Faculty - College of Education
  - Devin Marvin: Accountant
  - Spencer Munson: Assistant Director of Campus Engagement
  - Belinda Weber: Adjunct Faculty - College of Business
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## **Thanks to our outgoing Staff Council Members!**

Thank you to all who have served on Staff Council during this past term. Your time, energy, and commitment have made a lasting impact, and we are deeply grateful for your contributions to the Doane community!

- Brad Jenny, Chair
  - Kelsee Dunn, Secretary/Treasurer
  - Mellanie Gilroy, Vice Chair of Staff Recognition & Staff Development
  - Marie Knapp, Vice Chair of Technology
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## **Meet Your 2025-2026 Staff Council**

As members of the Staff Council, they will serve as key advocates for staff concerns and help build a stronger, more connected community across all campuses. We look forward to their leadership and are excited about the contributions they will bring.

**Stephanie Hemje** - Chair

**Sandy Koll** - Chair-Elect

**Andreea Baker** - Secretary/Treasurer

**Melissa Morris-Wichman** - Vice Chair of Communications

**Catherine Archie-Johnson** - Vice Chair of Staff Recognition & Staff Development

**Ted Jedlicka** - Vice Chair of Technology

**Megan Forbes** - Group 1: Division of Advancement, Division of Enrollment Services

**Suzanne Mealer** - Group 2: Division of Community & Government Relations, Division of Human Resources, Division of Student Affairs

**Devin Marvin** - Group 3: Division of Academic Affairs, Business Office, Division of Institutional Effectiveness

**Krew Tran** - Group 4: Division of Technology Services, Facilities, Public Safety

**Aaron Blackman** - Group 5: Division of Athletics

**Catherine Archie-Johnson & Melissa Wichman** - At-Large: Non-Residential

As a reminder, **all staff are welcome to attend any Staff Council meeting** throughout the year to stay informed and engaged!

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## Tiger Shout Outs

Take a moment to brighten someone's day by posting a shout-out on the [Tiger Kudos Board](#). Celebrate those who go above and beyond and let them know their efforts truly make a difference!

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## Meet a Staff Council Member

**Melissa Wichman**, *Director of Learning Technology and Library Services*,

**Vice Chair of Communications**

**Explain what you do in under 10**

**words:** I oversee a team of instructional designers, educational technologists, library professionals, and other experts dedicated to supporting teaching, learning, and research across the university.



**What brought you to Doane?** Back in 2017, I applied because a friend was working here.

**How long have you worked at Doane?** Technically, I have been at Doane for 8 years. I left for another ID position but continued to teach as an adjunct for the ID&T Program. I returned in 2021 as a lead ID and was promoted to Associate Director and then interim Director. When the Director of LTLS position became available, I applied due to my passion for technology, learning, and teaching.

**What do you like most about your job?** I enjoy collaborating with others to create engaging learning experiences for our students.

**Are you a Doane graduate?** No, but I would like to work on a second master's degree or possibly my EdD.

**Tell us about your family:** My husband, Kurt, and I have been married since 2022. We have three dogs, Nina, Otis, and Reddington, and one cat, Ms. Bea.

**Where did you grow up?** I was born in Walnut Creek, California, and moved to Lincoln, Nebraska, with my family when I was 10. I have lived most of my life in Nebraska, but I spent seven years in northern Arizona. I used to teach middle school math and science, but I transitioned to instructional design work after completing my master's degree.

**How big was your family?** I have two sisters. Janet is married to Mike, and they have one son, Thomas. Kim is married to Travis, and they have one fur baby, Ripley. My parents are both retired and enjoy spoiling Thomas!

**What's your favorite food & restaurant?** I enjoy a wide variety of foods, but I prefer to eat vegan when possible (which we do at home). I love Lazlo's and Granite City.

**What hobbies do you enjoy?** I love to garden and just installed raised beds in my backyard. I grow all kinds of vegetables, and the highlight of the season is being able to harvest from my garden and make a meal :)

**What's your favorite holiday & why?** Probably Halloween! I love the weather and seeing the kids in costume. I have expanded my candy selection to include stickers, markers, pencils, and other fun items. The kids seem to get pretty excited about the selection.

**If you could travel anywhere, where would you go?** Ireland, Italy, Switzerland, and New Zealand.

**Tell us something others may not know about you:** I had known my husband for seven years as a bowling acquaintance. I finally got the courage to ask him out, and within 9 months, we were married :)

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## **STAFF COUNCIL MISSION STATEMENT**

*We pledge to work in partnership with Doane faculty, students, the Leadership Team and the Board of Trustees to enrich the culture of Doane staff by supporting an inclusive, inviting and equitable community. Staff Council serves as a communication conduit between staff and administration. Staff Council commits to providing a voice for staff to formulate and endorse recommendations for action to improve the work environment, opportunities, policies and procedures for the betterment of the Doane community.*

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### **Your 2025-26 Representatives**

**Stephanie Hemje** - Chair

**Sandy Koll** - Chair Elect

**Andreea Baker** - Secretary/Treasurer

**Melissa Wichman** - Vice Chair of Communications  
**Catherine Archie-Johnson** - Vice Chair of Staff  
Recognition & Development  
**Ted Jedlicka** - Vice Chair of Technology



# DOANE UNIVERSITY

**Megan Forbes** - Group 1: Division of Advancement, Division of Enrollment Services

**Suzanne Mealer** - Group 2: Community & Government Relations, Division of Human Resources, Division of Student Affairs

**Devin Marvin** - Group 3: Division of Academic Affairs, Business Office, Division of Institutional Effectiveness

**Krew Tran** - Group 4: Division of Technology Services, Facilities, Public Safety

**Aaron Blackman** - Group 5: Division of Athletics

**Catherine Archie-Johnson & Melissa Wichman** - At-Large; Non-residential programs in Lincoln, Omaha, online and/or graduate programs

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Staff Council meetings are every other Tuesday at 2 pm CT. Please contact your representative for dates. You are free to join us!

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