Honorable Trustees,

I am pleased to share our Staff Senate quarterly report with you. Much of the work of the senate is accomplished through committees.

- Our Governance and Elections Committees have compiled a set of revisions to the Staff Senate Bylaws which are in the process of being discussed and reviewed with Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources Marie Williams.

- The UNC system is conducting a system-wide employee engagement survey, designed to gather data from full-time employees across its 17 institutions. This five-year initiative is being implemented as part of the UNC system’s Higher Expectations 2017-2022 strategic plan. As Chair of Staff Senate, I sit on NC State’s Engagement Advisory group. Communication is key to ensure that faculty and staff are aware of this initiative and are encouraged to participate. To help get this information to staff, we are using our Staff Senate Connect newsletter managed by our Public Relations Committee.

- Our External Affairs Committee met with Assistant to the Chancellor for External Affairs Sarah Stone and Executive Assistant for External Affairs Dana Shillinglaw. The committee shared legislative updates and possible impacts to NC State with senators during the general meeting.

Representing nearly 6,000 staff across the university and all 100 counties of the State of North Carolina, Staff Senate provides opportunities for staff to engage and serve. This quarter, we have had a strong focus on service—serving staff, serving students, serving our community. Our Diversity, Human Resources, and Resources and Environment Committees took the lead in engaging the university community in the following events.

**Serving Staff**

- **Women’s Basketball Employee Appreciation Event**, January 10, 2018. Staff Senate initiated this event eight years ago, co-sponsored with Athletics and OIED, as a way to support our women’s basketball team and to show appreciation for employees. During this year’s family-friendly event, senators served free pizza and Howling Cow ice cream to NC State employees and their guests.

- **NC State Staff and Faculty Appreciation Day**, December 12, 2017. Staff Senate hosted a booth where senators engaged with employees spinning the NC State Wheel of Knowledge. Everyone wins, everyone learns! We shared our booth with Staff Ombuds Roy Baroff, who talked with employees about the role of Ombuds.

- **Computer Loan Program**, year-round. This Staff Senate program loans refurbished university computers to employees who could not otherwise access a computer for professional development.

**Serving Students**

- **Bountiful Harvest Food Drive**, October 2017. Connecting across the university community, senators hosted food collection boxes in 25 locations across NC State and in 18 counties through NC Cooperative Extension. The food collected was distributed to pack members in need through the NC State Feed the Pack Food Pantry and to our community through the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina.

- **Warm the Pack Winter Coat Drive**, January 2018. In partnership with the Feed the Pack Food Pantry, Staff Senate organized a drive to provide warm coats to students, particularly international students who may be experiencing wintry weather for the first time!
Serving Community

- **Toys for Tots**, November 6-December 8, 2017. During our annual Toys for Tots drive, more than 2,000 toys were collected. This project is in association with the U.S. Marine Reserves who distributed these toys to families in need across Wake County, including NC State employees.

- **Habitat for Humanity**, December 1, 2017. While NC State’s Build-A-Block project has been completed, our support continues with senators serving as hands-on volunteers with Habitat for Humanity of Wake County.

NC State Staff Senate—Communicating! Collaborating! Connecting! And Serving!

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathi Phillips Dunnagan
Lead Instructional Designer, Distance Education and Learning Technology Applications (DELTA)
Chair, NC State Staff Senate, 2017-2018