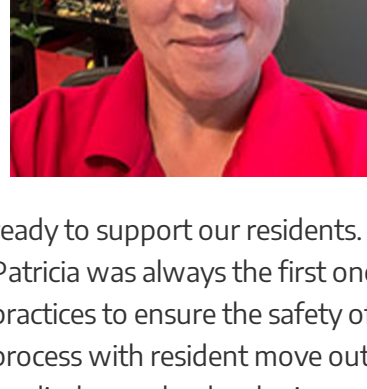


Student Affairs Staff Heros

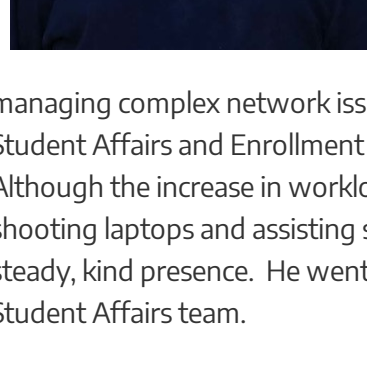
Thank you for taking the time to submit a nomination for an individual or team who has shown innovation during this challenging time. With the tremendous efforts of so many, the selection process was not an easy one. Those that were selected were quiet leaders and through their efforts, made a positive impact on our community. Three individuals and one team were selected to receive the Student Affairs Staff Hero Award,



Patricia Ruiz, Housing & Residential Education

Patricia Ruiz is the Custodial Supervisor for 29 residence halls. Her experience in the department during H1N1 flu in 2009 ensured that [Housing and Residential Education](#) (HRE) was stocked with personal protective equipment for all staff. She anticipated supply chain issues and ensured HRE was

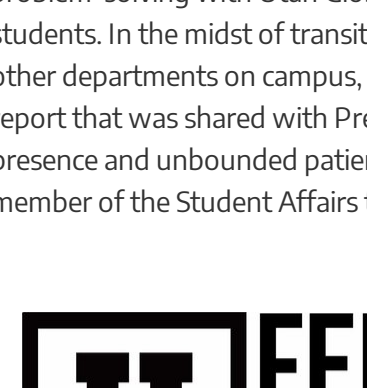
ready to support our residents. With the rapid move out of residents in March, Patricia was always the first one in the room to assess. She implemented best practices to ensure the safety of staff and residents. In addition to the cleaning process with resident move out, Patricia was proactive in planning for a potential medical surge by developing systems that were organized, efficient and safe. She is a true Student Affairs Hero!



Hayden Waters, Network Support

Hayden Waters of [Network Support](#) assisted numerous departments and individual staff members with the rapid move to providing services remotely. His knowledge and his kindness exemplifies what a hero is, helping others and in this case, helping others to serve students. From

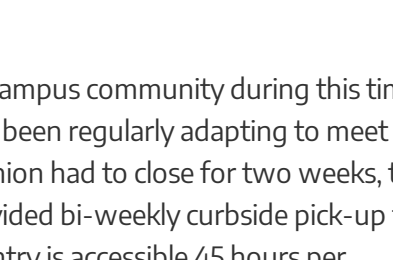
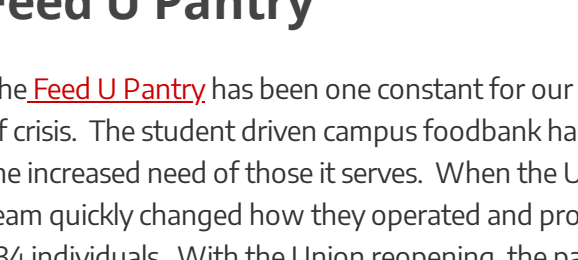
managing complex network issues, and ensuring staff access, he made it possible for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management to continue their operations remotely. Although the increase in workload was daunting between server issues, trouble shooting laptops and assisting staff with learning new software, Hayden was a steady, kind presence. He went above and beyond, like heroes do, to support to the Student Affairs team.



Jake Van Epps, University Counseling Center

Jake Van Epps has indeed been a Student Affairs super hero in this time of COVID-19. Jake's keen technological expertise, innovative ability to think outside-the-box, and skill were key to transitioning confidential services online, not only for the [University Counseling Center](#) but other departments

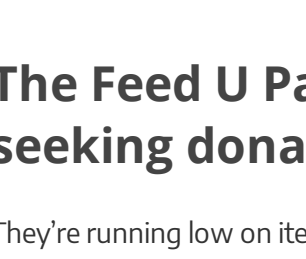
who offer counseling as well. In his role as Testing Center Coordinator, he has been problem-solving with Utah Global to provide online Accuplacer tests for international students. In the midst of transitioning the University Counseling Center and assisting other departments on campus, he developed a comprehensive counseling status report that was shared with President Watkins. His unfailing kindness, steady presence and unbounded patience make him an amazing colleague and valued member of the Student Affairs team.



Feed U Pantry

The [Feed U Pantry](#) has been one constant for our campus community during this time of crisis. The student driven campus foodbank has been regularly adapting to meet the increased need of those it serves. When the Union had to close for two weeks, the team quickly changed how they operated and provided bi-weekly curbside pick-up for 734 individuals. With the Union reopening, the pantry is accessible 45 hours per week. The student leaders and the Union Administration staff that have supported them have been innovative and dedicated. These heroes believe no one should go hungry during this time of uncertainty.

The other nominees included: Allison Musser (Career and Professional Development Center), April Pavelka (Career and Professional Development Services), Dannielle Moriando & Lisa Nemelka, (Undergraduate Advancement), Jeanne Huelskamp (Campus Recreation Services), Jenna Templeton, (Center for Student Wellness), Katie Boonkrataung, (Center for Student Wellness), Matt Beach (Housing and Residential Education), Megan Randall (Career and Professional Development Center); Network Support Team; Ryan Rhodes (Student Leadership and Involvement); Student Affairs Diversity Committee, Diversity Seminar Series (Bobbijo Kanter & Jenni Schreiner); Timothy Davis (Housing & Residential Education), Women's Resource Center.



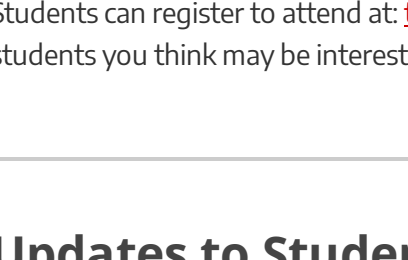
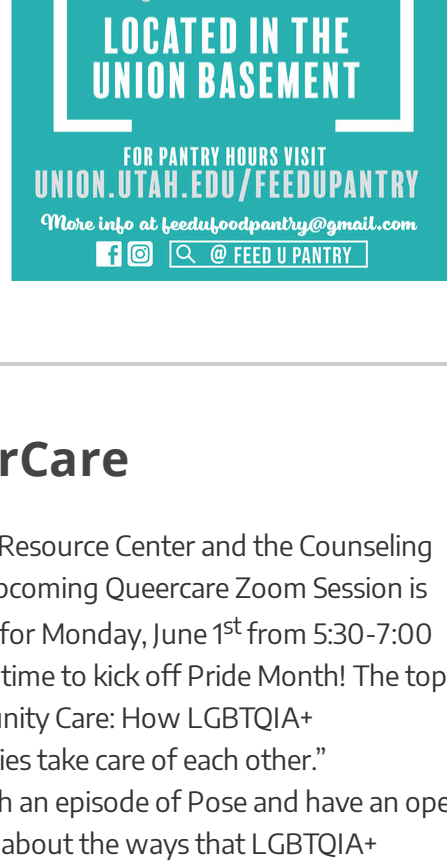
Student Affairs All Staff Meeting is next week!

Don't forget to register for our **Student Affairs All Staff Meeting on Thursday, June 4th at 11:00 a.m.**

[June All Staff Registration](#)

The Feed U Pantry is seeking donations

They're running low on items like peanut butter and grab/go snacks. Please consider donating to help those in need. Visit their website: Union.utah.edu/feedupantry for more information



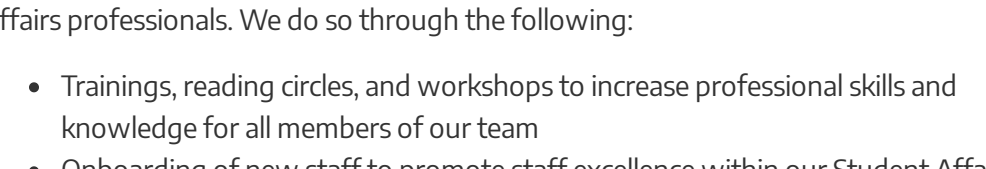
QueerCare

The LGBT Resource Center and the Counseling Center's upcoming Queercare Zoom Session is scheduled for Monday, June 1st from 5:30-7:00 pm, just in time to kick off Pride Month! The topic is "Community Care: How LGBTQIA+ Communities take care of each other." We'll watch an episode of Pose and have an open discussion about the ways that LGBTQIA+ communities have historically cared for each other, as well as practices for showing care and challenging toxicity in our communities today.

Students can register to attend at: [tinyurl.com/UQueerCare!](http://tinyurl.com/UQueerCare) Please share with any students you think may be interested!

Updates to Student Affairs Committees

Over the past few weeks, we have shared our new Student Affairs Staff Committee structure to further enhance our work as a Student Affairs team. Over the past three weeks, you've learned about two new committees: Social Connections and Staff Wellness as well as changes to the Student Affairs Diversity Committee. This week, learn more about what is changing with the Professional Development Committee.

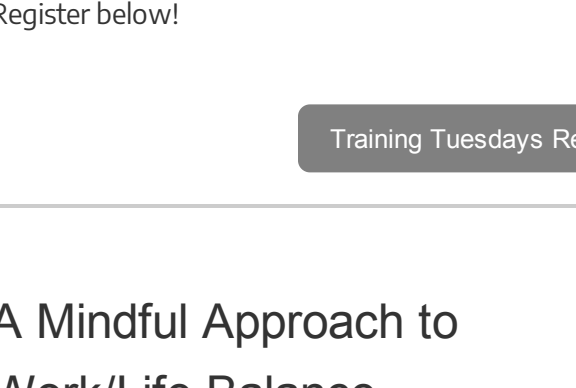


The [Professional Development Committee \(PDC\)](#) has been through many changes over the years. We have renewed our focus on professional development by offering opportunities to increase skills, knowledge and innovative best practices as Student Affairs professionals. We do so through the following:

- Trainings, reading circles, and workshops to increase professional skills and knowledge for all members of our team
- Onboarding of new staff to promote staff excellence within our Student Affairs team and as part of One University
- Collaboration across the division and institution to promote best practices within Student Affairs

We are excited to integrate our work with the [ACPA-NASPA Professional Competency Areas](#) and other professional standards that guide student affairs practice. Because student affairs represents so many different area of expertise, we seek to engage all staff to expand our offerings to reflect the training and development needs of our Student Affairs team.

Each week, the Professional Development Committee updates professional development opportunities that are available online as well as sponsoring programs by our own talented team. Learn more about what is available or [submit an application](#) to share your expertise with your colleges by visting our website: <https://studentaffairs.utah.edu/pdc/index.php>



Training Tuesday Series

The [Professional Development Committee](#) is excited to kick off live seminars on the second Tuesday of live each month, to support your skill development and ability to engage with colleagues around important topics. Join us for our inaugural program, *Acting as a Mediator to Staff: A Zen Approach*, facilitated by

Todd Justesen of Housing and Residential Education, on Tuesday, June 9th @ 1 p.m. Register below!

[Training Tuesdays Registration](#)

A Mindful Approach to Work/Life Balance

This workshop for U faculty, staff, and graduate students is designed to introduce participants to mindful strategies for balancing work-life stress. Come learn effective coping tools for navigating the responsibilities of different life roles as well as techniques for managing stress and anxiety. Workshops held Fridays for 4 weeks from 12-1 pm, starting on June 5th.

A Mindful Approach to Work / Life Balance



[Workshop Registration](#)

What inspires you?

If you have a quote, poem or other inspiration that speaks to you that you'd like to submit to be shared at an All Staff meeting or in the newsletter, please use the link below.

[Inspiration](#)

In Case You Missed It

Please stay up-to-date on official information from the University of Utah by taking a few minutes to read [@theU](#) each Monday. Here are some highlights in case you missed them.



[USHE releases path for welcoming students back to campus for fall 2020](#)

[Update on changes to Title IX](#)

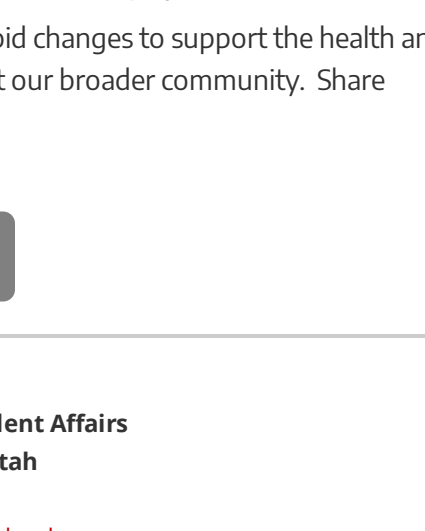
[Mindful work/life balance](#)

Resources

[COVID-19 Central @theU](#)

[Student Affairs Online](#)

[Student Affairs Remote Work Toolkit](#)



The U's COVID-19 Hotline: (801) 213-2874

RedMed: (801) 213-3303

Work Wellness Center: (801) 581-2227

HR Benefits Team: (801) 581-7447

Something on Your Mind?

As part of our team, we know you have made rapid changes to support the health and wellbeing of not only our campus community but our broader community. Share what's on your mind.

[Tell us](#)

Vice President for Student Affairs
University of Utah
801-581-7793
studentaffairs@utah.edu

What topics would you like to see in SA Updates? [Share your ideas!](#)

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