CHAIRMAN’S CORNER

MOORE RENEWS APSAC’S COMMITMENT TO OFFER SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS AFFECTING A/P STAFF

As the Chair of APSAC, it is my responsibility to make sure that APSAC stays on point to represent Purdue’s administrative and professional staff and our concerns to upper administration as well as listen, advise and disseminate information from upper administration. Although I believe we are doing a much better job in communicating changes and new opportunities to you through the Sentinel, we need to do a better job speaking to the concerns that affect our work environment. That is why it is my renewed focus and commitment to work on correcting this oversight by APSAC.

It is one thing to talk about the problems, but to be an effective advisory group we need to come up with potential solutions that address the problems. During the recent joint meeting between APSAC and the Clerical Service Staff Advisory Committee (CSSAC), members from both organizations participated in an exercise that looked at doing just that. We broke into groups to look at issues common to both groups in the areas of communication, compensation, benefits, professional development and staff relations. From those initial lists of problems we then came up with our top two solutions for each category that we want to further develop. APSAC and CSSAC will take one solution from each area to iron out the details to present to upper administration in the form of recommendations. We know that not every recommendation will be accepted, but that will not deter us from continuing this process going forward.

I do not want to overlook the important role that you play in this reintroduced direction. We cannot help solve problems unless we know what they are, and that is where you come in. We rely heavily on the interactions between A/P staff and the members of APSAC. I ask that you take the time and effort to contact your APSAC representative no matter how small or insignificant the issue may be, because chances are you are not the only one affected. In turn, we will begin using the Sentinel to report on our progress and what it is we are working on so that you can stay informed.

Together we can improve issues affecting our work environment, so I want to thank you for your help in making Purdue University a great place to work.

Boiler Up and Hail Purdue!!

QUESTION OF THE MONTH: What issues or problems have you encountered recently at Purdue that you would like APSAC to address? Send your replies to your APSAC representative to find out how we can help!

ISSUES APSAC & CSSAC PLAN TO ADDRESS THIS YEAR

APSCA and CSSAC recently compiled a list of issues common to both groups in the areas of communication, compensation, benefits, professional development and staff relations. APSAC and CSSAC will tackle one solution from each area and present related recommendations to the upper administration. The 10 action items formulated were:

**BENEFITS**
- Establishing a voucher program for employees who wish to join non-Purdue fitness clubs and organizations.
- Establishing paid, short-term leave for employees to visit and learn from other units and organizations on campus.

**COMMUNICATIONS**
- Further employing APSAC’s monthly newsletter, The Sentinel; the committees’ websites; and social media accounts to spread the word about each committee’s activities.
- Conducting more informational presentations on campus about both committees.

**COMPENSATION**
- Benchmarking University employees’ pay rates against comparable rates in the private sector to identify wage compression.
- Expanding and encouraging consistency in the University’s performance review system.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**
- Increasing funding for APSAC and CSSAC grants.
- Establishing a campus-wide center for professional development

**STAFF RELATIONS**
- Creating a system-wide awareness campaign for APSAC and CSSAC.
- Establishing a listserv for CSSAC members and constituents.
NEW REWARD PROGRAM RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF STAFF

A new reward and recognition program for eligible employees will be available Oct. 1: The Bravo Award. The Bravo Award seeks to highlight the excellence found across all areas and job functions at the University by recognizing extraordinary achievements on every scale. Bravo is an after-the-fact discretionary award program, designed to provide recognition for substantial accomplishments to an individual or work group.

The Bravo Award was designed by the Compensation Advisory Committee, which was chartered in June by Purdue’s executive leadership to develop and implement new and improved compensation practices to recognize efforts by Purdue employees who move the University forward, support excellence and innovation in all it does, and help it operate more efficiently and effectively.

To ensure that all eligible faculty and staff have an opportunity to be rewarded for exceptional performance, all units are strongly encouraged to participate in Bravo. Award amounts may range from $100 to $1,000 with a limit of two awards per fiscal year for individual faculty and staff, given the value and application of the accomplishment.

Each unit can provide Bravo Awards up to a maximum of 10 percent of its eligible faculty and staff in the following employee categories:

- Tenured/tenure-track faculty, clinical/professional faculty, research faculty and continuing lecturers.
- Professional/Management staff.
- Clerical and Service staff.

Award criteria have been separated into four categories:

- Moving the University Forward: Accomplishments or contributions that transform or advance University objectives (i.e., initiatives that improve graduation rates, development of programs to measure student academic knowledge, enhancing the academic excellence of the University, improving student affordability, etc.).
- Operational Excellence: Extraordinary effort during times of critical department need (e.g., contribution that clearly and significantly exceeds standard job requirements and impacts the accomplishments of important and critical business operational goals and deliverables).
- Innovation/Creativity: Innovative work or suggestions, well beyond standard job requirements, that significantly improve operational efficiencies, introduce a new or modified business practice or improve work process, workflow or customer service.
- Fiscal Stewardship: Significant cost saving or cost avoidance realized beyond normally expected or established standards.

Each college/unit will establish its own nomination and award process. Additional details on the Bravo program, including a complete description of eligibility criteria, are available at www.purdue.edu/bravo.

‘LEADERSHIP IS AN ATTITUDE’ PRESENTATION TO BE LIVE-STREAMED NOV. 5

The Administrative and Professional Staff Advisory Committee (APSAC) will offer a live-streamed workshop titled “Leadership is an Attitude” on Nov. 5 as part of its Lovell Leadership Series.

Rodney Vandeveer, professor of technology leadership and innovation, will lead the workshop. It will take place at 9-11:30 a.m. in Stewart Center, Room 302.

This workshop will show participants the importance of creating positive relationships with workplace leaders and maintaining positive workplace attitudes. Participants will assess their work-related attitudes and learn six quick techniques for attitude adjustment. They also will learn how one’s attitude affects work teams’ performances and effectiveness.

In addition to his position at Purdue, Vandeveer has 30 years of industrial and business experience in management positions involving human resources, training and development, and manufacturing. Vandeveer is an accomplished speaker who has given talks to professional and academic groups throughout the country. He specializes in speaking about the importance of positive attitudes and of the interpersonal leadership skills required for effective leadership.

All staff members are invited to attend “Leadership is an Attitude” with approval from their supervisor, but space is limited to 100 attendees.

The event will be live streamed at http://www.kaltura.com/tiny/onf5t. Register to attend the workshop in person here.
Whether you have questions about medical benefits, open enrollment or Purdue’s health-related resources, APSAC is here to help you navigate the changing health landscape and keep you informed and prepared. The following pages contain reminders about upcoming events, news about tools that can help individuals make health-related decisions, and answers to medical insurance questions submitted by APSAC’s constituents. If you have additional questions not addressed in these pages, please contact your APSAC representative, and we will address those questions in future editions of the Sentinel.

HR ANNOUNCES NEW 2014 BENEFIT SESSION, AS WELL AS ONLINE RECORDED SESSIONS

Purdue faculty and staff turned out in big numbers for early 2014 medical plan information offerings from Human Resources. Because the early sessions were so popular, Human Resources has combined their content into a single presentation called “The Big Picture.”

Faculty and staff who attended the separate sessions – “Is a High-Deductible Medical Plan Your Best Choice?” and “Health Care: Moving Forward in 2014” – do not need to attend “The Big Picture,” which will cover the same information that’s been presented in the separate sessions.

“The Big Picture: 2014 Medical Options and HSAs” looks at the dynamics affecting Purdue’s medical plans and reviews all three 2014 choices. The session delves into the benefits of a health savings account (HSA) and explains how an HSA works together with a high-deductible medical plan.

**HEALTHY LIVING AT WORK PILOT**

Who’s eligible for the pilot?
You’re eligible to participate in the pilot if you’re a benefits-eligible, hourly employee at the West Lafayette campus who’s covered by a Purdue medical plan.

Here’s what you get:
• A preventive exam and preventive lab work from the fine staff at the Center for Healthy Living – and it’s all at no charge to you.
• A maximum of 90 minutes of paid release time to travel to the center, get your exam and return to work. Save your sick time! You’ll record this on your time sheet as “Other leave.” You won’t have to make up the time, but you’ll still need to get your work done. The pilot runs from Aug. 1 through Dec. 31, 2013. The Center for Healthy Living is open Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

USEFUL RESOURCES:

1. PURDUE BENEFITS
www.purdue.edu/benefits
hr@purdue.edu
www.purdue.edu/hrhelp

Try HR’s new secure message tool!
765-494-2222

2. ANTHEM
www.anthem.com
Check out Anthem’s tools and resources today!
888-272-9572

3. CASTLIGHT
www.purdue.edu/castlight
Mobile app available!
765-494-0111

4. CENTER FOR HEALTHY LIVING
www.purdue.edu/healthyliving
Now schedule appointments online!
765-494-0111
How, specifically, will out-of-network medical costs be treated under each of the three health insurance options? All three plans will follow the same design for the deductible and Out of Pocket Maximum (OOP). Out of Network amounts apply to both the Out of Network and the In Network deductible and OOP. However, In Network amounts do not apply to Out of Network deductible or OOP.

Why does the smoking add on (additional fee) for insurance only encompass employee/spouse, why does it not apply to ALL smokers (dependents) who are enrolled in the plan? Purdue has chosen not to address the tobacco use issue with dependents other than spouse/same sex domestic partner. The additional premium is intended to encourage individuals to stop smoking and to help fund possible future expenses due to the use of tobacco. Given that dependents are only coverable until the age of 26, it is not likely that the plan would be responsible for future expenses.

Where can we find a list of what are considered ‘preventative’ medications? Purdue will remain with Express Scripts (formerly Medco) for 2014. The most accurate place to find this information is on the ESI/Medco employee portal website. The portal always provides the most up-to-date information on available generics, pricing, preventive, etc. During Open Enrollment there will be a site available for you to enter your prescription information and have it priced through the 2014 plan options.

Is there a negotiated rate between the drug company and our carrier for certain medications? The role of the Pharmacy Benefit Manager (ESI/Medco) is twofold: they manage the claims processing both at retail and for mail order, and they also negotiate prices with the drug manufacturers. The best rates they can offer are for the generic, preventive and preferred brand name drugs.

Why such a big jump in price for deductible in a year’s time? Like all organizations, Purdue has been battling rising healthcare costs over the past several years and increased costs due to the Affordable Care Act. In order to manage the rising costs, Purdue’s Board of Trustees needed to set a plan for the ongoing level of cost sharing in the plans, since Purdue cannot continue to add funds at the level required to fund the plans. A benchmark used by many organizations is based on the level of funding the employer provides for premiums to the plan versus what the employee contributes. It was determined that Purdue needed to align more closely and work toward a point where Purdue would pay 80 percent of the cost of premiums, while employees would pay 20 percent (from the 84%/16% that was in place previously).

In the past few years, changes have been made to move in this direction and 2014 is the year where we have to meet this goal. A combination of plan design changes, premium restructuring, and cost control efforts have been necessary. Additionally, high deductible plans have been found to help control costs since most of us manage more effectively when we have more responsibility for how the funds are spent.

If my wife, who also works at Purdue, decides to come onto my insurance as a dependent, do we contribute to one HSA or do we each have our own HSA? The HSA is only for the employee who has the insurance, not the employee who is the dependent. A Health Savings Account (HSA) is a bank account in the insured employee’s name; however, the funds can be spent on qualified medical expenses for both individuals as long as the dependent is an IRS tax dependent. This also means that only the insured employee can contribute through payroll deduction. You are able to get a debit card on your account for your spouse to use. My spouse is in the lower of the two income tiers, so it could make sense for me to be a dependent on her insurance instead. Does that mean I would pay the lower rate, and again, would we have one HSA account or two? If spouses are on the same plan then the premium follows the higher income tier rates. In regards to the HSA and payroll deduction it is the same as above.

Do Purdue Employees know that medical treatments coded experimental or non traditional uses of standard treatments i.e. for a new disease are not covered by our health insurance or for a rare disease a proven drug therapy that has not been approved by FDA, a costly process that may not been done due to cost compared to financial return advantages can be denied by our insurance coverage, even when doctors recommend treatments and drug therapies for patients? This information is in the Plan Document that is shared with employees. All health insurance plans have rules around the types of services that are coverable. Plans do not typically cover treatments that are experimental/investigational, or not approved by the FDA for the treatment that is being prescribed.

I may wait for eye surgery until January. If I opt-in to Purdue as a secondary insurer, what will they cover? Anthem will cover...

Are you able to sign up for either of the Purdue Health Savings plans if you are over 65 and have Medicare part A coverage? You may sign up for either of the plans; however, IRS regulations will not allow you to have an HSA, so you would not receive the HSA funds from Purdue and could not make your own contributions.

Why is there such a considerable increase in the price the employee pays? The new plan that is comparable to what I have now is increasing by 240 percent. This is more than any raise that is being offered. Comparing plans and premiums between the two years is similar to comparing apples to oranges. We have completely redesigned all three plans and premium designs. Please take time to review the Truven Informed enrollment tool to see how your previous claims experience will look in the 2014 plan designs and premiums.

For the tobacco certification during open enrollment, it asks if you have been tobacco free for 12 months. What if you’ve been tobacco free for 4 months or 6 months. Do you have the surcharge? Is it prorated? The employee will have the surcharge if they have not completed an approved tobacco cessation program.

The survey in Ebeneffects will ask the employee the following:
1) If I have not used tobacco products in the past 12 months (no surcharge)
2) If I have used tobacco products in the past 12 months, but I have completed an approved program. (no surcharge but HR will run an audit in January to verify the employee completed an approved program. If not, then the employee will get the surcharge for 2014)
3) If I have used tobacco products in the past 12 months. (surcharge for 2014)

An employee will need to certify that he or she has been a non-tobacco user for at least 12 months to receive the Tobacco waiver for 2014 or completed an approved tobacco cessation program. Employees who have used tobacco in the past 12 months may qualify for a waiver of the additional premium by completing an approved tobacco cessation program. Approved programs concluded Sept. 1-Nov. 15, 2013, will qualify for a waiver of the 2014 additional premium. Now is too late to enroll in a qualified program before Open Enrollment begins.

If an employee has not completed an approved tobacco cessation program, at the end of any 12 month period being tobacco free the employee can submit a Tobacco User Certification Form at http://www.purdue.edu/hr/pdf/TobaccoUserCertification.pdf. Once HR receives this form the tobacco surcharge will be stopped for the remainder of the calendar year.

What happens if I miss the deadline for open enrollment? All Purdue employees, regardless of their former health insurance options, should participate in open enrollment, which takes place from Oct. 28 through 6 p.m. Nov. 15. Those who do not enroll by 6 p.m. Nov. 15 will be defaulted into the Purdue Health Plan with HSA 2, although they will forfeit Purdue’s contribution to the HSA in this scenario. Moreover, those who are enrolled by default will automatically pay the additional $500 tobacco premium because they did not certify their status as a non-tobacco user or request a waiver.

GET FREE FLU SHOTS AT CENTER FOR HEALTHY LIVING IN OCTOBER, NOVEMBER

The Center for Healthy Living is providing free flu shots by appointment for all benefits-eligible employees, plus spouses/same-sex domestic partners (SSDPs) who are covered on a Purdue medical plan.

Appointments are available from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays through Nov. 8. To schedule, eligible individuals should call the center at 765-494-0111.

The Center for Healthy Living is located in the Purdue West Shopping Center at 1400 W. State St. Free parking is available, and no permit is needed.

The center does not provide flu shots for children. However, employees, spouses/SSDPs and children who are covered on a Purdue medical plan have two ways to get a free flu shot aside from going to the Center for Healthy Living.

Go to a retail pharmacy: A list of covered locations is available at www.purdue.edu/hr/Benefits/Medical/fluShots.html. Those getting a flu shot through a retail location will need to show their Cigna ID card.

Go to their health care provider: All Purdue medical plans cover seasonal flu shots for covered employees and family members. Employees who have questions about flu shot coverage may contact Human Resources at 765-494-2222 or hr@purdue.edu.
Faculty and staff can get an estimate of their total cash outlay under each of Purdue’s 2014 medical plans by using the Truven Informed Enrollment tool, which is ready now.

Truven Informed Enrollment starts with the employee’s medical and prescription drug claims having dates of service between April 2012 and March 2013. Truven then shows how the employee would fare under each of the 2014 medical plan options, if the employee had similar expenses next year.

Estimates take into account premiums, deductibles, coinsurance and any contributions that Purdue will make to the employee’s health savings account (HSA).

Truven stores Purdue’s benefits data and has been a trusted third-party for years. Under its signed HIPAA agreement with Purdue, Truven conforms to all privacy and confidentiality standards.

All benefits-eligible employees have access to their Truven Informed Enrollment data in two ways:

- Letter sent to the employee’s home: The letter will arrive in mid-October and will provide a simple estimate of the employee’s total cost under each 2014 plan.
- Online tool: The online tool is available now. Employees go to the Purdue University Employee Portal at www.purdue.edu/employeeportal, log on using their Purdue career account and password and then click the EBenefits link. A link to Truven Informed Enrollment is on the right side of the EBenefits home page under the “Benefit Tools” section.

The online tool provides the same comparison information as the letter and offers the advantage of allowing the employee to adjust the information that Truven uses to estimate the employee’s total cost under the three 2014 plans.

For example, if an employee had a baby during the sample period of April 2012 to March 2013, but does not expect a new child in 2014, the online tool allows the employee to lower the health care cost estimate accordingly for next year. On the other hand, if an employee anticipates a surgery next year, the employee may add the surgery, and then let Truven estimate the surgery’s cost and use it in the 2014 plan comparison.

The online tool also lets employees add or delete family members for properly estimating the employee’s medical premium, if covered family members in 2014 will be different from those shown in Truven.

“Truven Informed Enrollment will show the employee their estimated lowest cost option for 2014,” says Eva Nodine, director of benefits in Human Resources. “Truven is simply a resource to help employees make their decision for next year. The choice belongs to the employee.”

Faculty and staff who do not know their Purdue career account and password may call the service number for their campus:

- West Lafayette: 765-494-4000
- Calumet: 219-989-2888
- Fort Wayne: 260-481-6030
- North Central: 219-785-5511

Employees with have questions about Truven Informed Enrollment may contact the Human Resources Service Center at 765-494-2222 or hr@purdue.edu.

SEND COST-SAVING IDEAS TO APSAC, CSSAC ANONYMOUSLY

The Administrative and Professional Staff Advisory Committee (APSAC) and The Clerical and Service Staff Advisory Committee (CSSAC) are working in conjunction to collect ideas and suggestions from Purdue employees to improve efficiency and decrease expenses on campus. This joint task force will collect, sort, and aggregate these ideas to formulate an action plan that APSAC and CSSAC leadership will present to senior administrators.

If you have ideas or feedback on the following questions, we invite you to anonymously submit your suggestions via the online survey at http://goo.gl/OFR1Ft by Oct. 31, 2013.

1. What suggestions do you have in cost savings and improved efficiencies at Purdue? Examples might include modifying procedures, streamlining activities, and/or eliminating waste.

2. What successful cost saving measure in use by your unit could be implemented in other areas of the University?

3. What other cost saving initiatives outside of Purdue have you seen or heard about that you feel we should investigate?

RECORDED PRESENTATIONS ABOUT 2014 MEDICAL PLANS

Faculty and staff can increase their knowledge of today’s health care environment and learn more about 2014 medical plan options by listening to the following recorded sessions offered by Human Resources. To turn on captions, click the speech bubble with “CC” inside that is at the bottom of the video screen. If you will be using the captions, please make the presentation full-screen so the captions do not cut off the wording on the slides.

“Health Care: Moving Forward in 2014” reviews dynamics affecting Purdue’s medical plans, highlights Purdue’s proactive steps to control costs while continuing to provide high-quality, affordable health care for faculty and staff, and gives an overview of all three 2014 medical plan options.

“Is a High-Deductible Medical Plan Your Best Choice?” covers how a high-deductible medical plan with a health savings account (HSA) works. The session explores questions people commonly have when considering a move to a high-deductible medical plan and looks at the advantages of an HSA.

WATCH THE PRESENTATION
VIEW POWERPOINT SLIDES FOR THE PRESENTATION

WATCH THE PRESENTATION
VIEW POWERPOINT SLIDES FOR THE PRESENTATION
MEET APSAC REPRESENTATIVE

DAVID BOWKER

Area of APSAC representation: College of Engineering and College of Technology
Current Job Title: Director Office of Future Engineers
Years worked at Purdue: 13
Primary job responsibilities: In a nutshell, to make sure we have undergraduates studying engineering here at Purdue! Since all students are admitted to the First-Year Engineering Program, we are the front-line office for high school students interested in engineering. Fortunately, we are not alone in this endeavor and we collaborate very closely with Admissions, Engineering Professional Schools and Programs, current student organizations and many more to bring in a talented and diverse group (1760ish) of new engineering students to campus each year. We also promote engineering careers to students grades 6-12, teachers and guidance counselors. My job is a balance of overseeing and improving our operations as well as directly participating in everything from presentations, travel, recruitment programs, marketing materials and social media.

Describe yourself in three words: What’s the most recent book you’ve read? What’s the best piece of professional advice you’ve received, and who gave it to you?

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Describe yourself in three words: What’s the most recent book you’ve read? What’s the best piece of professional advice you’ve received, and who gave it to you?

Registration is now open for the Executive Vice President for Business and Finance, Treasurer’s A/P Staff Recognition Luncheon on Oct. 30. To register, go to www.conf.purdue.edu/hrevents. The website includes a listing of honorees and other event information, including how faculty, staff and others can show appreciation for an honoree by attending.

The event is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Purdue Memorial Union’s North and South Ballrooms. It will honor administrative and professional staff who in 2013 have completed years of service totaling 10, 15, 20, 25, and longer in five-year increments. Deadline for registration is Oct. 18.

Honorees have received personal invitations.

Questions regarding the luncheon should be directed to Carrie Hanson in Human Resources at carrie@purdue.edu or 765-494-7397.