

DDAR STAFF SUPPORT COMMITTEE UPDATE-JUNE 2023

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The DDAR Staff Support Committee has been busy since the beginning of the year, offering opportunities for growth and learning to their constituents.

January saw the annual “Kick-Off the New Year” with Rich Bundy, which has always been a crowd-pleaser. Questions were submitted prior to this event, and Rich addressed each one with frank conversation and candor.

There is a long-standing tradition that the Committee’s February program be dedicated to DEI&B and this year was no different, with Adidi Etim-Hunting, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, presenting, “Advocacy for Yourself: Tools You Can Use and Share.” Adidi did an excellent job facilitating the conversation and a follow-up to the program will be offered in the future.

Coffee Chats, held on the first and third Wednesday of the month, continue to be a popular offering to staff support. Initially established to provide a space during Covid to talk about events going on in the world, the chats have morphed into an opportunity not only to learn but also mentor one another. A conscious effort has been made to offer programming for at least one of the Coffee Chats each month while keeping the tradition of an open forum for others. Pertinent information is collected, documented, and posted on the DDAR Staff Support website under “Nuggets.”

April saw the Staff Support Committee traveling to The Behrend College for the annual Commonwealth campus visit that provides an opportunity to gain experience and explore the goings-on at a Commonwealth campus. The group held a committee meeting on their first day at Behrend and toured the campus, including the beautiful Logan House. They spent some time with Kevin Moore, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, and he spoke to them about his experiences and why he is so passionate about Behrend and their initiatives, which provided a great perspective to the group.

On the second day of the retreat, the program “Money Counts: Planning for the Future” was presented by The Sokolov-Miller Family Financial and Skills Center in collaboration with Penn State Human Resources via Zoom to all DDAR staff support who registered to participate.

Everyone on the committee agreed this was a terrific opportunity to visit a Commonwealth campus and learn about the processes they use for events and other donor-related activities, as well as providing an opportunity for team building for the Staff Support Committee.

Lastly, please check the [DDAR Staff Support website](#) for valuable information pertaining to policies, procedures, definitions, and upcoming events. The Committee strives to keep the website refreshed with the most up-to-date information. If you see anything that needs to be updated or a link that is not working, please let Tammy Kurtz (tlb28@psu.edu) know as we may have missed something.

Thank you for your continued support, and the Committee is looking forward to the second half of 2023!

– The DDAR Staff Support Committee