

## New Staff Council Members Wanted

We are collecting the names of staffers on campus who would like to serve on Staff Council. Council members serve two-year terms, typically meeting as a 25-member council once a month, and also serving on one of the Staff Council committees.

You are welcome to nominate yourself or others by going to the Staff Council homepage ([smith.edu/staffcouncil](http://smith.edu/staffcouncil)) and clicking on the nomination form. Nominations are due by March 25 and elections will be held online April 26-28, and in person at the Campus Center on April 26. Details about Election Day will be sent out via the staff listserv and eDigest.

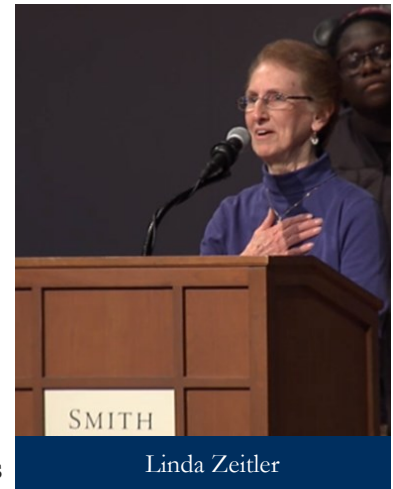
Additionally, Smith staff members are welcome to join Staff Council committees without having been elected to the Council. If you would like to serve on the Activities, Communications, Diversity, or Personnel Policy committees, please e-mail [staffcouncil@smith.edu](mailto:staffcouncil@smith.edu) for more details.

## Congratulations to the 2016 Gavel Award Winners!

Linda Zeitler and Martin Green were the latest Smith staffers presented with the Elizabeth B. Wyandt Gavel Award, presented February 17 at Rally Day. The awards are given annually by Smith students to Smith staff members who go above and beyond their usual duties.

Linda—a housekeeper at Cushing—was honored because of the way she made Smith “feel like home,” as well as for her “cheerful presence.”

Those who nominated Linda stated, “Although she is retiring, her caring presence in Cushing house will be dearly missed by current students and alums.... Linda has displayed infinite joy and love during her time at Smith, and most recently, during her time as Cushing’s housekeeper. She always goes above and beyond, making sure students are cared for in the form of holiday decorations, birthday cakes, and ‘get well soon’ notes. Her generosity, warmth, and kindness truly make Cushing House into a home.”



Linda Zeitler



Martin Green

Martin, who is the assistant director of the Picker Engineering Program, was honored as “a welcoming and dedicated member” of the community.

“Through his hard work, tireless hours, and unquestionable dedication to this program and the students within it, the Picker Engineering Program has thrived since [Martin’s] arrival two years ago. His ability to welcome and invest in each student he interacts with is an uncanny trait that motivates [students].”

Nominators said that Martin’s “positive attitude and true investment in the engineering department has truly benefitted the students he works with.”

Congratulations to both winners! Smith students and staff are proud of you.



Staff Council and Faculty Council co-hosted their annual Soup and Spuds event on Wednesday, January 20, 2016.

## Upcoming Events

### **President's All-Staff Forum** **Wednesday, March 30, 3-4:30 p.m.** **Weinstein Auditorium, Wright Hall**

President Kathleen McCartney and members of the administration will address Smith staff.

### **Human Resources Open Session** **April 14, 2-3:30 p.m.** **Stoddard Auditorium**

HR will give updates from their area and be available to respond to questions in an open session for staff.

### **Bus Trip to the Bronx: Seats Still Available** **April 16, 7 a.m.**

Tickets for the April 16 Bronx bus trip sponsored by the Staff Council Activities Committee will be available until March 31. Tickets are \$68 and include admission to either the Bronx Zoo or the New York Botanical Gardens. The bus leaves Smith College at 7 a.m. and will return around 8:30 p.m. Discounts available for children and seniors.

### **Movie Night** **May 25, dusk** **Chapin Lawn**

Activities Committee is choosing between *The Raiders of the Lost Ark* and *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*. Either way, expect a great night for the Smith Community and their families. Stay tuned for further details.

## Where Am I?

Can you identify this sculpture and its spot on the Smith campus?

Send your answer to [staffcouncil@smith.edu](mailto:staffcouncil@smith.edu). We'll reveal the answer and a winner (chosen at random from all correct responses) on our [Virtual Bulletin Board](#) by April 30.



## Share News with Staff via the Listserv

Staff Council announced at its most recent forum that staff are invited to use the staff listserv as a way to communicate with others across campus.

Currently, announcements about events open to staff, new benefits, and other resources are sent out via the listserv several times each month. Staff Council would like to expand the listserv's usage by connecting folks across campus. For example, if you are looking to organize an event on campus and would like other staffers to help you, we can send an email with an overview of your project and your contact information so that people will know whom to reach. Additionally, we're hoping to share more "good news" with campus, so if you're going to be on an upcoming episode of *Jeopardy*, the local non-profit you volunteer with is hosting a quilting bee for charity, or you have other news/events to share with us, contact us and we'll see if we can pass the info along.

To send non-commercial listings for potential posting on the Smith College staff listserv, email [staffcouncil@smith.edu](mailto:staffcouncil@smith.edu) at least one week before your event.

To sign up for the listserv:

- Visit [groups.google.com/a/smith.edu/d/forum/smith-college-staff-council-u](https://groups.google.com/a/smith.edu/d/forum/smith-college-staff-council-u).
- Click the blue "Join Group" button.
- Choose your email preferences, then click "Join Group."

## Did You Know?

### Teaching Arts Lunches are Open to All Staff

Each Friday the Sherrerd Center hosts a Teaching Arts Lunch, where staff and faculty have the opportunity to engage in various forums, with topics such as, *Beyond the Fragile Student: A Conversation about Mental Health in the Classroom* and *Discussion of the Smith College Course Evaluation System*. Unless otherwise indicated, Teaching Arts Lunches are held in Neilson Browsing Room from noon until 1 p.m., with lunch provided (meat, vegan, vegetarian, and gluten-free/grain-free options).

Visit [www.smith.edu/sherrerdcenter/lunches.php](http://www.smith.edu/sherrerdcenter/lunches.php) for more information.

### Summer Hours at Ainsworth Gym Extended

Beginning in June, the Ainsworth Gym will be open for four hours per day on the weekends.

“At this point we’re trying to get a feel for whether people would prefer mornings or afternoons,” said Theresa Collins, assistant director of athletics at Ainsworth. If you feel strongly one way or another, Collins would love to hear from you.

## Smith Offers Counselling, Legal Advice, and More Through EAP

As part of the benefits package for college employees, Smith offers an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) through the company E4 Health (formerly LifeScope). The program covers emotional well-being, legal and financial consultation, health and wellness resources, and referrals to numerous services and professionals.

**e4health**™ The EAP is designed to help employees and their families by providing access to confidential resources and referrals 24 hours a day for everyday needs including:

- Care for children, elder adults, and pets
- Lifestyle planning (new parent coaching, weight management, smoking cessation, stress management, etc.)
- Home maintenance and repair
- Travel and recreation
- Housing and relocation
- Volunteering
- Event and party planning
- Professional development
- Financial counseling (budgeting, taxes, debt assistance, refinancing, etc.)
- Legal consultation (civil/consumer issues, real estate, wills, immigration, family law, etc.)
- ID theft prevention and recovery
- Short-term counseling to address relationship concerns, depression, anxiety, grief, substance use, life transitions, and more.

To register for the service, visit [www.helloe4.com](http://www.helloe4.com). Your initial username is “Smith College,” and the password is “guest.” Once you log in with those credentials, you can register for your own account and access all services.

## Tuition Reimbursement Increase for Staff

Human Resources is pleased to announce that the maximum reimbursement amount under the tuition reimbursement benefit has been increased to \$3,000 per fiscal year. This benefit will reimburse eligible employees for courses taken at other colleges or universities. Detailed information about the Tuition Reimbursement benefit, including eligibility requirements, waiting period and eligible courses can be found in the Staff Handbook ([www.smith.edu/hr/handbook\\_403.php](http://www.smith.edu/hr/handbook_403.php)). The form for the reimbursement benefit can also be found on the [Human Resources website](http://www.smith.edu/hr/docs/tuition_reimbursements.pdf) (download the PDF at [www.smith.edu/hr/docs/tuition\\_reimbursements.pdf](http://www.smith.edu/hr/docs/tuition_reimbursements.pdf)).

## From the Archives: A Clean Sweep

A reorganization of the food services and housekeeping staffs went into effect in February 1973, dividing the two and creating clearer lines of authority. The change was supported with supervisor trainings and new methods of working for the housekeeping staff. Reductions in staffing were handled through part-time work, retirements, and resignations.

In the photo (right), Julia Reardon, a housekeeper in Jordan House, is seen demonstrating a more efficient way of vacuuming to her co-workers during Interterm 1973. When asked about the changes, she was reported as saying, "it's got to work. We're going to have to get used to it. But you can't change overnight."



## Showcase Your Culture: A Call for Family Recipes

In the spirit of fun and exploration, the Diversity Committee of Staff Council is inviting all staff to submit traditional family recipes. The resulting collection will be compiled into a digital cookbook that will be distributed via email in September.

“What better way for people to get to know each other than by sharing their favorite food?” said Sid Dalby, associate director of admissions and Staff Council member.

All recipes are welcome. Feel free to get creative and have fun with it! Photocopies of recipes are welcome as long as they are typed. Please send submissions to [Lisa Roberge at lroberge@smith.com](mailto:lroberge@smith.com), or via campus mail at Disability Services, College

## Contact us

Staff Council webpages: [smith.edu/staffcouncil](http://smith.edu/staffcouncil)

Staff Council Virtual Bulletin Board: [smith.edu/staffcouncil/bulletin.php](http://smith.edu/staffcouncil/bulletin.php)

 [facebook.com/SmithStaffCouncil](https://facebook.com/SmithStaffCouncil)

Staff Council email: [staffcouncil@smith.edu](mailto:staffcouncil@smith.edu)

*Chronicle* email: [chronicle@smith.edu](mailto:chronicle@smith.edu)

## Chronicle staff

Managing editor: Lisa Roberge

Contributors: Danielle Brown, Saari Greylock, Naomi Miller,  
Lisa Roberge, Nanci Young

Proofreaders: Danielle Brown, Marti Hobbes

Photo credits: Danny Hescocock, Smith College Archives

