PFLA wants you!

The Professional Faculty Leadership Association is the professional organization on campus for faculty managers and supervisors. We are concerned about professional faculty issues, are committed to improving our profession, and capturing the skills, enthusiasm, and vision of our members throughout the university. This year we are focusing our monthly meetings and professional development activities around three themes; promoting and enhancing diversity, lifetime health and wellness, and leadership/supervisory skills.

My real goal this year as president is to provide our members with access to the resources on campus that can help them “walk the talk,” of our diversity initiatives; and give them tools to implement real, tangible mechanisms to support students, faculty, and staff through these initiatives.

We have a great year planned and hope you will join us. All OSU employees are eligible to join.

Laurel Busse
President

Win with PFLA

PFLA is up to 50 members so far this year! Sign up for PFLA membership by September 21 to be eligible to win:

- 2 tickets to the Sept. 23 OSU Football game
- A one-night stay in a Spa Suite at the Salbasgeon Inn and Conference Center, Corvallis
- A two-night get-away at the Salbasgeon Inn of the Umpqua in Reedsport
- An HP Deskjet 6540 color inkjet printer from Office Depot

The drawing will be held at 1:40 pm, Thursday, September 21, 2006 at the Professional Faculty Leadership table, University Day 2006 Department Expo in the Alumni Center Ballroom.

Pay your membership fee by September 21, 2006 at 1:30 pm to be eligible to win. Your complete application must be received by our Membership Director, Cheryl Lyons, in Printing and Mailing by September 19th, or bring your application and payment to the PFLA table at University Day on September 21st. Checks must be made out to OSU.

You can obtain a membership application at the PFLA table at University Day or on the PFLA website at http://oregonstate.edu/

The great thing in this world is not so much where you stand, as in what direction you are moving.

~ Oliver Wendell Holmes ~
“Our Heroes” Award

PFLA’s “Our Heroes” Award recognizes an Oregon State University colleague or a group of colleagues for excellence in their work at OSU. Once each month, PFLA presents a token of appreciation to an extraordinary person or group on campus or within OSU state wide thanking them for their efforts.

Nominations are accepted on an ongoing basis and a recipient will be chosen by the PFLA awards committee. Nominations received will remain active for consideration throughout the term of the incumbent Board. Candidates must be nominated by PFLA members, but you do not have to be a member to be one of “our heroes.” Nominations will be solicited from the membership from time to time.

The “Our Hero” nomination form is available at http://oregonstate.edu/groups/pfla/heroes/form.php and may be submitted anytime during the year.

Each recipient will receive a certificate and flowers, while a photographer captures the happy occasion in a photo to appear in OSU This Week. “Our Heroes” provides PFLA members with an opportunity to support and acknowledge the professionalism of OSU staff, while highlighting the importance of others’ work and excellence in service.

Cooperative Learning Groups

The OSU Mentoring and Networking Committee invite you to participate in Cooperative Learning Groups. These groups provide ways for new and veteran staff to share information, network with other OSU employees and get their careers on the track for advancement. Here is a professional development opportunity at your fingertips!

There are two different types of Cooperative Learning Groups: peer and content based.

Peer Learning Groups provide an organized setting for employees in similar positions to share best practices and discuss issues and ideas. With Peer learning groups the teaching role is shared, with group members participating through cooperative interaction; they work to teach, help and learn from each other.

Content Based Groups transfer specific information to people wanting to improve their skills or broaden their knowledge in selected areas. Content-based learning groups benefit from ideas and questions that members bring, but they are designed around content chosen and delivered by the leader who will generally have expertise beyond that of the members.

You’ll love the increased job satisfaction you feel as your skills improve and your supervisor will love the benefits to the department. Group members have listed improving skills, acquiring new skills and knowledge, networking contacts, peer support, and personal well-being as worthwhile aspects of Cooperative Learning Group participation. Please visit the Mentoring and Networking Committee web site (http://oregonstate.edu/facultystaff/clg) to view last year’s topics. After September 19 you may view the 2006-2007 topics, sign up for a Learning Group, or to contact a committee member.

You also have the option to take the experience one step further by becoming a Group Leader. It is a safe, supportive environment where you can expand your leadership ability while coordinating and facilitating a Learning Group. If you have an interest or expertise in a subject that you use in your job, chances are there are others on campus who would benefit from participation in a group on that subject. If there is a topic you would like to suggest, please contact a committee member with your suggestions.

Take your career to new heights, join a Cooperative Learning Group!