Hello Fall Semester! And hello, again, to the staff whose work supports the campus community and academic mission of Buffalo State. Welcome back to our students who are either searching for parking or rolling out of the dorms. Students with backpacks, e-books, iPhones and earbuds are rushing toward classes or coffee. Students with fashionable footwear, funky specs and creative apparel are unraveling the puzzle known as the B, A, C wings of the Classroom Building.

Yes, in the spirit of reduce, reuse and recycle, I did just copy that paragraph from last year’s Chronicle, because it is still true. Autumn has officially arrived on campus because the meteorology club dropped a pumpkin from the roof of the classroom building on September 22. It was awesome! See the School of Natural and Social Sciences facebook page for pictures.

But a few last words about summer: I hope you have had opportunities to meet our leadership team, President Conway-Turner and Provost Perreault, at the corn fest or UUP picnic or Bengals Dare to Care Community Service Day. The corn fest was a huge success and we will be able to add significantly to the PSC scholarship fund (Account #311154 if you care to donate via payroll deduction). We know there are other college foundation accounts which professional staff maintain that directly support student needs. If you know of such accounts, please let me know and I will post them on our webpage. The Buffalo State UPstanders team was ranked among the top 8 fundraisers for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Buffalo walk on September 12. Great job!

And looking forward to (dare I say) Winterim: With the approaching retirement of our dear Paul Reynolds, it became clear that Winterim will need another shepherd. Paul is willing to advise an ad hoc PSC committee on Winterim. Feel free to volunteer for the committee and do let me know if you have a talent, skill or expertise that you are willing to share or demonstrate during the second week of January 2016. Who else remembers Bread with Fred, or yoga, or cheese-making, or natural pest repellents or dancing lessons or the variety of computer skills shared at previous Winterim events? We will discuss this further at the general membership meeting which reminds me:

Thursday October 15
Bengal Pause, Bulger 2 south

We will be hosting Provost Perreault and lunch will be provided. Email reminders to follow.

Regards for all seasons – Kelly Boos

On October 17 Buffalo State will participate in Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. Join the team or make a donation here.
General Membership Meeting with Provost Melanie Perreault

DATE: October 15
TIME: Bengal Pause (12:15-1:30)
PLACE: Bulger 2 South

Please join the PSC Executive Board in welcoming Provost Perreault at the first 2015-16 general meeting of the Professional Staff Caucus on Thursday, October 15 during Bengal Pause in Bulger 2 SOUTH.

Lunch will be provided, so please RSVP More details to follow so keep an eye on your email!

President’s Fall Forum: September 29

President Conway-Turner will address the Buffalo State College community at a Fall Forum on Tuesday, September 29, at 12:15 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center at Rockwell Hall. The president will present highlights from the previous academic year and set the direction forward for the upcoming strategic planning process. All members of the faculty and staff are encouraged to attend and to join her in a reception following the presentation to greet our new faculty and staff members.

Bengals Dare to Care Day

From President Conway-Turner’s blog:

Last Saturday morning, hundreds of students, faculty, and staff members arrived at the Sports Arena to participate in our community service day, Dare to Care. This year was our seventh consecutive September community service day, and we received the largest response to date with nearly 1,000 participants signing up to give back to the Buffalo community. Our Dare to Care Day was held in collaboration with the United Way Day of Caring. It was wonderful to see that several faculty and staff members arrived with their children to participate in the service day along with our student body.

It was a spectacular day, one that clearly manifested Buffalo State’s commitment to the city of Buffalo and our surrounding communities. I thank the hundreds of Buffalo State volunteers who joined our ranks as Bengals dared to care for our community on September 19, 2015.
The Buff State "UPstanders" team participated in the Out of the Darkness walk to support the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention on Saturday, September 12 in Delaware Park (near the zoo). The UPstanders developed out of the Buffalo State Cares initiative to prevent suicide on campus. UPstanders are the opposite of bystanders in that UPstanders are active in finding solutions and getting involved. Joan McCool, Director of the Counseling Center said they had a nice turnout even though the weather was so rainy. Buff State UPstanders came in in the top 10 as far as fundraising (number 8 out of almost 200 teams!)

This walk was the final activity for our seventh annual Mental Health Awareness Week, that took place that week. The intention of Buffalo State Mental Health Awareness Week is to get the campus community talking openly about the issues that surround mental health and mental illness and to raise awareness of the issues people face. It is also a time to get people thinking about their own mental well-being and reaching out to others. Connecting with others, positively engaging with our community, looking out for each other, and being compassionate toward others and toward ourselves makes a big difference in the quality of our mental health.

The chair of the walk was Charlene Vetter, the Counseling Center’s interim associate director, and the chair of Mental Health Awareness Week is Suzanne Johnson, senior counselor. Please visit the Counseling Center website or call 878-4436 with questions or for additional information.

Through National Student Exchange, Buffalo State students have the opportunity to study for a semester or an academic year at one of 200 participating colleges or universities at affordable tuition rates and receive credits towards graduation using financial aid!

Visit the Office of Special Programs in South Wing 410 or call 878-4328 and speak to Christine Frezza to plan a classroom visit. Provide your students with this possibility for enriching their college experience!