

Subject: Instant HR/Payroll: FLSA Open Q&A Meeting, CVC Underway, Second PSLF Session Added, Well-Being Seminars, Financial IQ, UNUM Long Term Disability Open Enrollment in November, and more!

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Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) Information Session

Do you have questions about the Department of Labor's changes to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) being implemented on December 1, 2016? Please join Linda Harber, Vice President for Human Resources, Payroll and Faculty/Staff Life at an open information and question/answer session on Thursday, November 3 from 2-3pm in Merten 1201 . No need to register, just drop by. For an FAQ on the FLSA changes, please visit <http://hr.gmu.edu/workforceplanning/>.

Help Your Community Flourish: Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign (CVC) Underway

The 2016 Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign (CVC) is underway with over 1000 charities from which to choose. Contact Helga Yunker at hyunker@gmu.edu for pledge cards or additional information. To focus on charities in your area, just go to <http://www.cvc.virginia.gov> and click on Donors, then *Find a Charity*. There you can search by zip code, city, charity name or Region 3 for Northern Virginia charities. Online giving is available at <http://eDirect.virginia.gov> for payroll deduction as well as one-time credit card donations. A list of charities can be viewed at <http://www.cvc.virginia.gov/directorylist.html>.

Direct Giving counts too and helps the charity meet their CVC minimum eligibility! If you give individually to a charity currently enrolled in the CVC campaign, you and Mason can receive credit for your charitable donation. This even includes registration fees for 5K's, bike-a-thons, and other charity events with registration fees. Just send a copy of your donation or registration receipt to Helga Yunker at hyunker@gmu.edu.

Remember even the smallest donation can make a big difference. Let's showcase our caring community spirit and put Mason on the CVC leaderboard for charitable giving.

New Session Added: Helping Faculty/Staff Manage Student Loan Debt

Human Resources and Payroll is partnering with one of Mason's retirement vendors, Fidelity Investments, on the very important topic of employee student debt. As a qualified public-service employer, Mason's salaried faculty and staff who work 30 or more hours per week may be eligible to participate in the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program.

Due to the popularity of the original session scheduled for November 1 which is filled to capacity, representatives from Fidelity will be on campus for a second time on *November 2 from 12-1pm* to present on the PSLF. The session will be held in Fairfax only. If you or a family member have federal student debt, you may find this session informative. Please visit <http://hr.gmu.edu/learning/hr.php> to register. Additionally, through November 14, Fidelity is piloting a new Student Debt Tool website for all faculty and staff. This beta site is being made available to a limited number of organizations; Mason is one of only two public universities participating in the pilot. For additional information on this opportunity, visit hr.gmu.edu/benefits.

Please note: This is a voluntary program for all faculty and staff to test Fidelity's new website and gain insights into managing student debt. There are no sales involved and you will not be contacted by Fidelity regarding any of their other products.

You do not have to be a Fidelity member to participate in either opportunity. For questions, contact the Benefits team at benefits@gmu.edu.

Well-Being Seminar Series

HR & Payroll, in conjunction with some terrific partners, is offering the following well-being learning opportunities in November:

November 10, noon: Looking Ahead: Building Retirement Security with Steven Scott of ICMA-RC

November 17, noon: Cooking Demonstration, Soups and Stews with Lois Durant of Mason Dining

To learn more and to register, please visit the <http://hr.gmu.edu/learning/hr.php>.

Financial Fun with TIAA

We're in a little competition with regard to TIAA's Financial IQ Challenge at

<https://www.whatsyourfinancialiq.org/wyfiq/?quiz=georgemason/Quiz2>. Please encourage your faculty and staff to take the Challenge by November 2, 2016. We're trying to beat our 2015 numbers and spread the word about this easy and fun opportunity to build your financial knowledge. Each day, 5 new questions are added to the Challenge. Every time you play, you are entered for a chance to win a \$25 Amex gift card from TIAA. The more you play, the better your chances of winning! (All responses are confidential.)

UNUM Long Term Disability Open Enrollment Begins November 1

If you are a non-VSDP employee who is not yet participating in UNUM or a current participant who wants to change the amount of your coverage, open enrollment runs November 1 - 30. Long-term disability insurance is designed to protect your income should you become medically unable to work. Additional information is available on the [benefits website](#).

Please note: A targeted email about open enrollment for UNUM will go out to all eligible faculty and staff.

Westminster School/George Mason Collaboration Merit Scholarship

In the spirit of collaboration with George Mason University, Westminster School is offering a scholarship opportunity to the children/grandchildren of Mason faculty and staff. The renewable Merit Scholarship is in the amount of \$8,000 per year, and is open to new students entering grades 3 – 7. Westminster School is an independent school located in Annandale, VA just minutes from the beltway. The scholarship process begins on November 1, 2016 for the academic year beginning Fall 2017. To find out more about this opportunity, please visit the [Westminster Merit Scholarship page](#).



From our Colleagues in the Library's Collection Development Team: Focus On U.S. Election Resources

Election Day in the United States is right around the corner. Catch up with political news, views and analyses through these selected databases and journals provided by Mason Libraries: [National Review](#), [The New Republic](#), [Factiva News Pages](#), and [CQ Press Library](#). For more information, search the Libraries' [subject guides](#), [database list](#) or contact a [subject librarian](#). Free access for Mason faculty, students and staff – just use your Mason NetID and password. If you have any questions, please contact the [Collection Development](#) or a [subject librarian](#).

From Our Colleagues on the Community Engagement Council: Community Engagement Register Available

The Community Engagement Council is a cross-functional team of faculty, staff, and students who are

working to bolster and track community engagement efforts and initiatives at Mason. The primary goal of the Council is to apply for the 2020 [Carnegie Community Engagement Classification](#). To that end, the Council has developed a data collection tool called the Community Engagement Register (CE Register), to capture both partnership projects and service learning courses at Mason. If you would like to participate, please login to <https://engageapp.gmu.edu/> to enter your partnership projects or service learning classes. The Council will send out a follow-up survey to those who test the tool to obtain your feedback.

From our Colleagues in the Office of Research Integrity and Assurance

A commercial compliance software tool used throughout Mason, Visual Compliance, is now being additionally utilized to help it meet federal requirements with respect to persons who have been hired by Mason. The Federal Government publishes many lists of companies and individuals with whom U.S. entities like Mason are prohibited from dealing with without prior government authorization. These lists are lengthy, apply to both domestic and foreign entities and individuals, and are frequently updated. Visual Compliance enables Mason to quickly check these various government lists and document our continuing compliance with these federal requirements.

If your department purchases equipment or services from outside of Mason, makes wire transfers abroad, or hosts delegations of foreign visitors or visiting scholars, you can receive access to Visual Compliance in order to quickly and easily determine whether an entity or individual with whom you wish to engage is named on one of these federal restricted party lists. For access and training on Visual Compliance, please contact export@gmu.edu.