On October 3, 2016, the MSU WorkLife Office hosted an Open House to welcome the campus community to our new space in Linton Hall. With over 100 people in attendance, the Eat at State food truck, MI Blue Owl Coffee (sponsored by TIAA), and a plethora of resources, the Open House was a wonderful grand opening!
October is National Work & Family Month

According to the WorldatWork website, “National Work & Family Month, established in 2003 and celebrated every October, focuses on the challenges working families face every day. The month is nationally recognized by businesses, academic institutions, federal agencies, members of Congress, work-life advocacy groups and individuals who want to make it easier for employees to succeed at work and at home.”

Here at the Michigan State University WorkLife Office, Work & Family Month will be celebrated by recognizing MSU’s Outstanding Supervisor Award winners. Each recipient of the award will be honored with a surprise celebration in their unit. The award recognizes supervisors who value flexibility and create a positive environment for their work teams.

The WorkLife Office also hosted its Open House on October 3. This was the kick-off to Work & Family month and a wonderful way to engage and connect with our campus constituents and collaborators. Many resources were shared, including a look at the office's key projects (found on page 3 of this newsletter).

Last, but certainly not least, the WorkLife Office is hosting a conference titled, “Honoring Your Work and Personal Lives: Implementing Flexibility.” This WorkLife Conference will focus on helping staff and faculty at Michigan State University achieve high performance goals through flexibility in work and personal lives. This free conference is being held on Thursday, October 20, 2016 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Michigan State University’s University Club (3435 Forest Road, Lansing, MI).

The conference will feature a keynote address by Dr. Ellen Ernst Kossek, Basil S. Turner Professor at Purdue University’s Krannert School of Management and Research Director of the Susan Bulkeley Butler Center for Leadership Excellence. Dr. Kossek is also the author of CEO of Me: Creating a Life That Works in the Flexible Job Age. The title of the keynote address is “Creating a Culture of Work Life Flexibility: What Leaders and Employees Should Know.”

Concurrent workshops will include topics such as: flexibility styles, using MSU’s performance review processes to enable high performance, and tools for creating a flexible work arrangement.

Space is limited. Registration is required by Friday, October 15, 2016. For more details and to register, visit: https://worklife.msu.edu/honoring-your-work-and-personal-lives. Questions? Contact the MSU WorkLife Office at (517) 353-1635 or worklife@msu.edu. (See the flyer on page 4).

Join us in celebrating National Work & Family Month!

UPCOMING EVENTS & SOCIAL MEDIA

For a complete listing of upcoming WorkLife events, visit our website: http://worklife.msu.edu.

Interested in receiving weekly e-mails about upcoming programs and events? To join the WorkLife Listserv, send an e-mail with the subject line “WorkLife Listserv” to: worklife@msu.edu. Be sure to indicate your name and e-mail address.

Questions? Contact the WorkLife Office by phone at (517) 353-1635 or via email at worklife@msu.edu.
### WorkLife Office Projects

**Employee Engagement Survey** – initiative with I-3, HR, RHS, EVPAS

**Alumni Relations** – development of volunteer alumni partners for new faculty and staff

**New International Faculty Orientation** – collaborating with AAN and OISS/ISP

**Training Mentors and Faculty Excellence Advisors** in areas of work life effectiveness

**Exploring and developing decision tools and education for deans, directors and chairs about implementing flexibility for high performance**

**Colleges** - supporting implementation of strategic goals for work life effectiveness

**Wellness Strategies Team** – collaborative of well-being supports for high performance, including: HR, Healthy Campus Initiative, OUP, UFAC, Unions & WLO

**MSU Outstanding Supervisor Award** - staff-nominated award for positive leadership

**“Reflect and Connect” series** – with I-3, OUP/EAP, providing support and skills for staying focused when current events impact work

**Enhancing support for breastfeeding** – education, campus map, contact people

**Support for leadership development** - Academic Women’s Forum, Women’s Networking Association

**Commuter support system** - with IPF, MichiVan and Transportation to get you to work efficiently

**Events:**

**Interdisciplinary Research Forum on work life issues** – economic, social, political, health-related

**Fatherhood Forum** - day-long educational event for campus and community fathers

**Spring 2016 Symposium “Academic Work Life Compatibility: The New University WorkLife Office”**

- Dr. Brad Harrington, Boston College; Dr. Sandra Gahn, Iowa State; Dr. Ann Austin, NSF and MSU; Dr. Isis Settles, formerly MSU; Dr. Elizabeth Simmons, MSU; Ms. Silvia Dimma, MSUFCU

**Fall 2016 Conference “Honoring Your Work and Personal Lives: Implementing Flexibility”**

- Dr. Ellen Kossek, Purdue University; Dr. Barbara Roberts, MISU; Ms. Lori Strom, MSU

**New Faculty Picnic** - partnership event to welcome incoming faculty

**WACSS Spring Forum, March 20, 2017 - WorkLife Office Update and resource table**
MSU Worklife office invites you to:

Honoring Your Work and Personal Lives: Implementing Flexibility

Thursday, October 20, 2016
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

University Club Heritage Room

For more details & to register, visit http://worklife.msu.edu

Keynote Address by Dr. Ellen Ernst Kossek, Basil S. Turner Professor at Purdue University: “Creating a Culture of Work Life Flexibility: What Leaders and Employees Should Know”

Workshops will include:
“Managing Work Life Boundaries in the Digital Age: Improving Well-being On and Off the Job”

“Strategies for Implementing Flexible Work Schedules; Everyone Wins!”

“Gaining Control in Order to Grow: Opportunities through Performance Review”

Questions, call (517) 353-1635 or email worklife@msu.edu