USAC Draft Responses – October 2026

Submitted Data:

type of submission	Idea/Suggestion
submission details	Company-wide Slack workspace. For community-building as well as easier communication between departments, it would be so helpful to have a place for staff and faculty to connect. I know some departments already use Slack, but it would be great to have one available to anyone on campus to use as well. As an admin, I could see it being useful for sending a quick message about availability, or organizing one-off working groups like move-in day support staff. For staff community building, having channels devoted to areas of interest could foster more cross-campus interconnectedness. Recently, it would have been great to have a venue to ask if anyone in my neighborhood could carpool to campus when my car was in the shop; I see other employee parking stickers in my area all the time but I don't know who they are to ask.
are you seeking a response or just submitting an idea comment	Yes, I would like a response to this question/concern.
full name	Jessie Pascarelli
department	Campus Operations
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UrPoster Form Page	https://usac.richmond.edu/contact/suggestion-form.html

Thank you for this thoughtful suggestion and for highlighting the importance of creating opportunities for faculty and staff to connect and build community across the University.

Information Services reviewed the suggestion and confirmed that several departments already use Slack. The University also has existing collaboration platforms, including Zoom, that offer messaging and group communication capabilities. For example, several administrative offices already use Zoom's chat functionality, which is accessible on desktop and mobile devices.

Before considering a new University-wide Slack workspace, it makes sense to explore whether our existing tools could support the informal, cross-departmental connections described in the suggestion. We'd also want to consider ease of use, accessibility, security, ongoing support, and cost, while avoiding the unintended consequence of creating yet another communication channel for employees to monitor.

We appreciate the spirit of this suggestion and agree that strengthening connections across our campus community is a worthwhile goal. Information Services welcomes the opportunity to partner with Human Resources and Staff Council to better understand the need and explore practical ways our existing technology might help bring this idea to life.

Submitted Data:

type of submission	Idea/Suggestion
submission details	Folks using the GRTC don't have a bench or shelter when waiting for the bus. As we are encouraging folks to use public transportation, I would like to suggest that benches and shelters be located at the bus stops on campus - particularly the ones by the main entrance and by the Refectory.
are you seeking a response or just submitting an idea comment	Yes, I would like a response to this question/concern.
full name	Michele Cox
department	Center for Global Engagement
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UrPoster Form Page	https://usac.richmond.edu/contact/suggestion-form.html

Thank you for your suggestion regarding benches and a shelter at our GRTC bus stops on campus.

At this time, there are two benches located at the entrance to the Refectory, adjacent to the bus stop. We will evaluate the feasibility of adding benches at the bus stop location.

Additionally, the bus stop on University Drive near the Campus Drive entrance currently has two benches. We have also been in recent conversations with GRTC regarding their desire to install a shelter at this location. We are continuing to discuss the proposed size and design, and a future meeting is planned for later this fall. No decision has been made at this time.