

Staff Senate Meeting – August 2, 2017

Ashlee called meeting to order at 4:00

Tina Gonzalez / Kara Newcomb – HR – Compensatory Time Presentation

Quorum – 44 in attendance

Kacey Marshall motioned to approve minutes from January to June. Steve Maines seconded. Motion passed.

Billy T. – Treasurer's report - \$1600 remaining in account. Need to pay for TechAdvantage bags. Will receive \$28,700 for 1718 and will buy football tickets. Decision was made not to purchase other tickets.

New senators were asked to stand to be recognized.

Ashlee asked new senators not present in July to stand and swore them into Staff Senate. All new senators accepted oath.

Committee Reports:

Constitution & By-Laws –Kacey Marshall - Currently quorum is 2/3 of positions filled in senate. Amendment proposed that quorum will be one person over half of senators. Amendment will be read again.

Elections – Maggie Gilchrest – C&B has been asked to review changes to elections process. Issues have come up regarding voting within EEO classifications. Voting on-line; voting in person --- many options are being considered. Maggie asked that suggestions be submitted to Amanda Adamson.

Diversity – Kelsey Jackson – will be reaching out to Dr. Elizabeth Sharp to be more involved with diversity events across campus.

Issues – Adrian Bennings – one open issue that pertains to bridging a gap between HR and staff & faculty & communication across the board. Adrian is open to a co-chair & mentioned that committee is time intensive.

PR – Alan Cushman – Needs volunteers for NEO. Opportunity for new & veteran senators to get involved. 2nd cup of coffee will start in September. Speaker Series is upcoming.

Scholarships – Christy Rosson - application is online and will be revised. Need members to review and rank applications. Awards are made fall / spring and summer.

Technology – Josh Pia – needs help with website content – inform him of changes (especially to committees). Maggie encouraged involvement and review of website.

OP Review – current OP being reviewed - is being tabled – per Stephanie Bohn.

Special Committee Reports:

Academic Council – Maggie – proposing statement of support of LGBTQIA community. Statement isn't required. Raider rooms were discussed. Faculty wants to create a Double T College – similar to Ted Talks. Encouraged bridging the gap between faculty and staff.

Ashlee – wanted to provide additional information about what to expect this year.

- Attendance – encouraged senators to attend. Three excused absences are allowed. Notify us (Christy, Ashlee) if you will be gone.
- Quorum is important and will need to be reached in order for change to happen.
- This is a professional identity – put “Staff Senator” & term on your email signature.
- Ashlee doesn't like to waste time – wants to take care of business while we are here.
- Agenda – will get through committee reports quickly and then open meetings to dialog / issues.
- Speakers will only be at meetings to discuss issues that pertain directly to us as staff.
- Ashlee opened floor to questions, suggestions for her:
 - Sarah Schwintz – asked to define an excused absence. It was proposed that we set a deadline to ask for excuses. Ashlee said we may establish more ground rules for absences. Ron Baker suggested offering incentives. Maggie added that we have a responsibility to be here – that's what we were elected to do and we shouldn't have to be offered incentives to come. A perfect attendance award was proposed. It was also mentioned that the meetings themselves and the content may be the reason people don't attend. Ashlee plans to improve content.
 - It was asked if meeting times are set. They are outlined in the constitution – per Kacey.

Unfinished business:

Employee tuition assistance update – proposal is going to Noel Sloan before going to BOR. Dependent scholarship will be lowered to \$500. ETA will stay as is except grad school students will pay \$150 fee per semester (or \$50 per hour). Terms and gpa requirement remain as they are. Josh asked if graduate certificates will pay \$50 fee. Shelley thinks so --- but Ashlee will verify.

New Business:

Maggie – updated on New Senator Orientation. Orientation took place before this meeting. Encouraged 2nd & 3rd year senators to reach out to 1st year.

EEO representation is short on the exec committee. We are currently short 3 positions.

Ashlee – Maggie sent email concerning 3rd year senators mentoring 1st year senators. Email Ashlee if you are interested.

Reorganization of Committees – Kacey has reviewed committee in constitution & bi-laws and we aren't correctly establishing committees. Nominations and Elections should not be one committee. Will be divided up because they serve different purposes. EEO classes should be represented on first three committees. To correct all mistakes – it would take all year. Ashlee wants to dismantle committees and sign up (or re-sign). Appointments will be made for those that don't volunteer. Ashlee will appoint chair

for nominations committee. Will establish new committees before next meeting. Josh put committee sign up form online. Committees will be built and then each committee will elect their chair.

Ashlee will send out action items regarding committees. Would prefer not to take up time in the September meeting.

Question – nominations, elections & grievance committees must have representatives from each EEO class.

Ashlee was asked if there would be a Historian appointed and she said currently it's a non-issue and would be happy to discuss the issue later.

Ashlee – what do you want out of this year?

- Make a difference
- More awareness of Staff Senate across the university
- More representation at faculty / student govt meetings

Alan Cushman motioned to adjourn at 4:57. Ron Baker seconded.