

Staff Senate Monthly Meeting

January 3, 2018 Minutes

Meeting called to order at 4:00 by Ashlee Brown, President - HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Quorum present –Vote to approve December minutes – Motion by Kacey Marshall / Kelly Cooper 2nd

Billy Tiongco presented Treasurer’s report: \$24,807 – scholarships have expensed. Next round of scholarships soon. Leadership conference next week.

Constitution / By-laws – nothing to report

PR – Conference on January 9th – 115 have RSVP’d ; 2nd cup of coffee on Jan 24th

Elections – nothing

Nominations – Ashlee – Jill Coronado emailed concerning ad-hoc committee regarding presidential funds. Will address in “unfinished business”.

Grievances – none

Issues – Christi Felton – 3 issues – one is resolved. Others were sent to committee chairs.

Scholarships – Christi Felton – nothing new to report. Will get going soon for spring

Technology – Levi Johnson – nothing to report

OP – nothing to report

Diversity – nothing new – Ashlee has update – Diversity conference being held – January 9th – Dr. Sharp asked for people to come from 1-3. Please let Ashlee or Maggie know if you plan to attend.

Special Committees:

University Parking – hasn’t met (Kristin Miller)

Faculty Senate – not a lot of updates. Discussions regarding tenure track, instructors / instructors of practice. Not sure who represents that population – faculty or staff senate. We need to find out where they feel they best fit. Per Maggie – at one point – they were part of staff senate.

Academic Council – Maggie – a few arguments regarding who holds the word “creative”. Talked some about graduation – ceremonies will not change yet – until there are additional capacity related issues. Academic calendar voted on – fall / starting on Monday traditionally. Want to change to mid-week beginning 2020. Would start the Wed or Thurs before the normal Monday to give an extra day for grade submission at the end of the term. Maggie asked that a presentation be done for staff senate.

President’s council – people in community that are advisors / consultants for President – ie Bart Reagor ; Nancy Marshall – updates with community, involvement w/ SPC and partnering with them. Nothing necessarily relevant to our every day jobs, but interesting content.

Ethics Center hasn’t met.

Ashlee met w/ President Schovenec – he wants to get down to business and expected 3-4 proposals. Ad-hoc committee has been formed. We need ideas submitted to committee to request funds from president that will be used to benefit staff members. Ashlee mentioned one proposal of Staff Senate kiosks. Kelsey Zickefoose mentioned that MBA for working professionals is not completely covered (1 class) by Employee Tuition Assistance. Would like to see funding cover one class.

Maggie – working with state wide committee for staff senators. Has ideas for issues we might consider as a senate. UT is creating an “emergency fund” to use as a gift through HR. UTRGV brought up issues regarding merit raises. Maggie will submit ideas to hopefully spark ideas for use of presidential funds. Maggie was asked if community colleges or involved, but she said only universities are currently involved.

Mid-Term elections – fantastic turn out. Still need more senators – so we will roll vacancies into spring. Ashlee said we need to make a strong push to have senate at capacity by July. Any ideas regarding elections can be sent to Amanda Adamson.

Conference on Tuesday January 9th – please RSVP if you haven’t done so already. Today is the last day to RSVP.

ADA compliance invitation – Larry Phillippe – university wide committee on ADA compliance. Ashlee was invited to sit on committee. Meetings should start in January. Any issues regarding ADA compliance that you face in the workplace can be sent to Ashlee so she can take to the committee.

Any additional discussions?

Ashlee – position open in PFP for Academic Advisor

Attendance – rules set up at beginning of semester. We have a few people that haven’t attended at all. Ashlee is going to send a warning to ask people’s intentions for the rest of this year.

Kacy Marshall – president’s office has an excellence in advising award – so feel free to nominate anyone you know that might be deserving.

Jerry introduced a guest. Ashlee reminded everyone that our meetings are open. Feel free to bring visitors and guests that might want to serve and help spread the word.

Kelly Cooper – please send her emails ; upcoming events ; pictures, etc. for a binder that’s being created for Staff Senate. Kelly is our new Historian.

Kacy Marshall is serving as our parliamentarian. Both of these positions are appointed by the president.

Levi – all committee chairs and those serving should be listed on the website. Corrections can be sent to Levi Johnson or Josh Pia.

Kacy – moved to Adjourn at 4:35. Kelly Cooper seconded. Meeting adjourned.