

Texas Tech University Staff Senate

General Meeting Minutes

August 7, 2024

3:00– 5:00 p.m.

Civil Engineering Room 209

Attendees: Jeremiah Neal, Jeff Hoover, Rachel Bloodworth, Austin Pace, James Winters, Jared McCauley, Casandra Suarez, Saebree Gonzales, Michelle Deleon, Jeramey Gillilan, Amy Perez Kranz, Kyle Panon, Annmarie Maldonado, Valorie Duvall, Kym Ruiz, Brooke Galvan, Joshua Whitt, Lord Rodrick Thomas, Rosa Testini, Morgan Hyman, Michele Moore, Victor Moore, Aimee Cameron, Brooks Gustafson, Lauren swindle, Anthony Rodriguez, Bryson Carroll, D Patterson, Elizabeth Carroll, Shannon Gonzales, Theresa Madrid, Angela Chisum, Tayler Ramos, Jay Balderas, Chandyl Pruitt, Yulanda white, Ashlie Crawford, Rob Ward, Johanna Valencia, Anne King, Jerrod Nutt, Erika Soto, Blaine Grimes, Jasmine Dumas, Vanessa Salazar, Sierra Trenhaile, Erin Engelhardt, McCaleb Hart, Renteria Pris, Ryan Bain, Jeff Bain, Stephanie West, Joann Wright, Beth Watson, and Heather Johnson.

Call to Order – Stephanie West (1 min.) – 3:03pm

Land Acknowledgement-Jerrod Nutt (1 min.)

Nutt read the Land Acknowledgement statement.

Administrative Business (2 min.)

- Quorum – Ryan Bain stated a quorum was present.
- Email staffsenate@ttu.edu for absences and why you'll be out if you want us to have on record
- Let me know if your paper nametag needs changes.

Approval of July Minutes – Motion to approve July Minutes; Angela Chisum first, Elizabeth Carroll seconded, motion passes

Treasurer's Report- Heather Johnson (3-5 min.)

- 16E - Current Available Budget: \$8108.05
- Admin/Exec: \$5000
 - Spent: \$2423.10 + \$1431.00 polos
 - Current Budget Remaining: \$ 1204.39 (-\$226.61 after polos)
- Communications/PR/Events: \$7000.00
 - Spent: \$4439.07
 - Current Budget Remaining: \$-2958.76
- Scholarships/Awards: \$15,000

- Spent: \$3729.98
 - Current Budget: \$-180.17
- HIT Committee: \$2000
 - Spent \$142.15
 - Current Budget Remaining: \$93.05
- Caregiver: \$1500
 - Spent \$0
 - Current Budget: \$1451
- EOPS: \$11,000
 - Spent \$0
 - Current Budget: \$0.00
- 18R:
 - Current Budget: \$16,701.53, started with over \$21k
- 31A SEF:
 - Spent Last Month: \$719.38
 - Current Budget: \$4378.14
- 15A003: Undergraduate Scholarship
 - Spent: \$0
 - Balance: \$0
- Call for FY25 budget (once committee chairs and co-chairs have been established)
 - Victor Moore asked why we have a negative, we have money from other FOPs to cover those
 - Committee chairs be thinking about what you want on your budget for this year because it will need to be approved
 - If you did not get polo or nametag, let Heather know and we can get them by next meeting.

Caregiver Support – Angela Chisum-Chair (2 min.)

- Caregiver Resource Fair-Yesterday
 - SUB Ballroom, 9:30-11:30
 - Food and chair massages
 - Send something out on Salesforce
 - Shared on FB
 - Early children, Garrison, Day center, Psych professors, people with additional needs
 - Spreading the word through senators was helpful
 - 133 attendees, 107 have filled out survey

Technology - (0 min.)

- No updates

Nominations –Heather Johnson-Chair (0 min.)

- Committee selections have been done; ad-hoc completed
- Some people may not get their first choose. All committees are 5 minimum.
 - Bylaws pending review for how nominations will work and who can/cannot be on certain committees.

Staff Emergency Fund – Rachel Bloodworth -2 min.

- Funded two applications (in less than 10 days!) in July for a total of \$850
- Remaining budget is \$4,247.52, will roll into next year if not spent

Elections-Heather Johnson-Chair (0 min.)

- No updates

Issues –Austin Pace-Chair & Beth Watson –Co-Chair (1 min.)

- One issue under investigation, about OP 161.03 about academic scheduling issues
- Concerned about enforcing the policy, can see in registrar dashboard
 - Have received 3 new issues as of 8/7

Humanity, Impact and Togetherness (HITT)– Theresa Madrid-Chair (1 min.)

- Logo Design Contest winner: Karina Dozal
- Showed logo
- Can't have this logo put on something with the new brand guidelines
- Barriers with new branding because of feedback.
- Can join University Identity Teams
 - Marketing has not responded about if we can use logo or not. Stephanie can get ahold of them if they don't answer.
 - Maybe we can use it with the new Senate logo along with the logo winner.

Scholarships & Awards– Marian Gossett-Co-Chair (2 min.) – Jerrod Nutt Spoke

- Voted on Staff Senate Distinguished Staff and scholarship awards. Awarding final 5, 7/31/24- should be on NEXT paycheck via EOPS
 - Used every penny of scholarships this year, to make sure as many as possible were awarded.

Communications/Public Relations – Joann Wright- Chair (5 min.)

- Meals on Wheels bag decorating went great! About 32 participants, and some non-senators attended. Thank you for coming and bringing friends.
- Contacted South plains Food Bank to plan a volunteer Saturday event this fall
- Wanting to plan once-a-month Friday lunches, with different activities
- Beginning to look at different fundraising activities and events
- Investigating venue options for a back-to-school movie night in partnership with Faculty Senate
- Found bags in basement for Staff Senate

Grievances – Chris Mosher-Chair & Feroza Haq-Co-Chair (1 min.)

- No expulsions
- One warning not sent due to end of term.
- Received edits to committee procedure documents from the Executive Board; making changes/additions for the final document
- One resignation, and new alternate already accepted
 - 5 absences are allowed, but we are working on appeal system for appealing the absences to stay in Senate

Bylaws – Rachel Bloodworth- Chair (1 min.)

- No updates
- Need to vote in GM on a minimum of 6 people on Issues. Instead of 5.
- Is it time to reevaluate how many people are actually required based on the amount of things that are doing on that committee.
 - 1st reading: change minimum number of members for Issues committee from 5 to 6 people. Will read again and vote in September

OP Review – Jared McCauley- Chair (5 min.)

- See attached OPs
- No grievances with the OPs
- 70.03, someone has crossed out a section. They are putting it in veterans for higher education
- 70.27, push back on this one
 - Vote for 5 Op approvals attached to agenda.
 - Austin Pace motioned and Beth Watson 2nd, motion passes

Unfinished Business-Stephanie West (10 min.)

- Year-end budget audit with Heather, Stephanie, Scott and Jerrod – was July 15th
- Executive Retreat recap

- Recap of this year, look to next year, how can we grow, faculty/SGA were there for lunch for shared initiatives, vision for upcoming year
- Have just exec in team building since they will be working together the most throughout the year
- Full day next year

New Business- Stephanie West (10 min.)

- Proposed bylaws change: “The historian shall be a current senator serving on the PR/Communications Committee.”
 - 1st reading of new bylaws change, 2nd reading and vote at September meeting
- Committee announcements
 - Vote for EEO Alternate Rep for Clerical & Secretarial
 - McCaleb Hart – candidate speaks on why they want to be EEO Alternate
 - April (Anne) King – candidate speaks on why they want to be EEO Alternate
 - Anne King is the new EEO Alternate Rep for Clerical & Secretarial
 - Names senators for all other besides Staff Success committees. This file will be sent out and on SharePoint.
- Proposal for Office of Staff Success Ad-Hoc Committee announcement
 - Hope to have this office go live next Fall with help from the President
 - Jerrod will be Internal Chair and Carol will be Ex-Officio Chair since she started this effort.
 - University Advisory internal member will be Beth Watson and external will be Bethany Kuwitzky.
 - Named senators who will serve on the committee.
- Status of committee chairs/co-chairs
 - Process for the committee is different for every committee
 - In previous years, chosen with new senators at one of the GM’s
 - Scholarships opened it up to who would be next chair instead of just appointing, but they have a co-chair not a chair right now.
 - Need Chair: HITT, Scholarships, Technology
 - Need a timeline in bylaws on choosing the next chair
 - Will reach out to all individuals who want to be Historian
- Vision Words:
 - Our people
 - Transparency
 - Flexibility/Resilience
 - Advocacy
 - Connections & Resources

- Vision Statement: For the 2024-2025 year, the Staff Senate Executive Committee will focus on enhancing our community by prioritizing our people, ensuring transparency in all actions, and fostering flexibility and resilience, we will strengthen advocacy, build meaningful connections, and expand resources to support and empower our staff. Together, we aim to create a supportive and dynamic workplace that encourages growth and collaboration.
 - Fundraising needed - \$7,500 each year to help with SEF funding
 - Ideas were Raffles, Tailgate, Boo Bash or Christmas party, Movie night, staff garage sale - \$8-10k goal for this year
 - 30-60 day follow up, push events through social media, have flyers in residence halls, create SS video to highlight events and play during NEO.
 - How can we connect one another to others on campus.
 - Family activity, big 504 class this year, show that we are supportive

Open Forum Announcements-open to all Senators & guests

- Staff Success Ad Hoc - had amazing people who nominated themselves, Exec voted on who we think is best right now, just because you were not picked does not mean you will not have a piece of making this happen. LET'S GET SHIT DONE!
 - Were alternates picked? No but we have a good pool if it comes down to that.
- This open forum is here to speak out and let your voice be heard whether that is events, things you want to see changed or added.
- We have all EEO classes this year which is the first time in a while. But we do have some that only have 1 but can have 4 people.
- James Winters accepts his nomination for Skilled Crafts EEO Rep.
- Hannah Wallace accepts her nomination for Technical and Paraprofessional EEO Rep.
- Stephanie will serve on committees around campus; New Strategic Plan Committee, Budget Working Committee, and Branding Committee. Will meet with President once a month.
- Jerrod will serve on Academic Council.
- Working on a staff graduate medal, will hopefully have before next graduation!

Adjourn – Motion to adjourn; Angela Chisum first, Morgan Hyman seconded, Adjourned @ 4:23pm