

## **STAFF SENATE MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, April 20, 2022

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Virtual via Webex:

<https://wright.webex.com/wright/j.php?MTID=mec692bb15fb10547557bd9f93c6e8f0e>

### **I. Call Meeting to Order**

### **II. Old Business**

- **Minutes**

March Minutes Approved

- **HLC Visits**

There will not be a staff senate meeting with HLC. With the meetings that they had scheduled, they had enough of a spectrum of faculty and staff, so they do not need to meet with Staff Senate separately. All participants have been contacted.

Just a reminder for the HLC visit, please brush up on the current mission and vision statements. You do not have to know it word for word but be able to articulate it.

- **2023 Staff Senate Election**

There were 42 people that submitted nominations with a total of 73 possible nominees. Staff Senate is in the process of allowing those individuals to accept or decline their nominations. These nominees will receive a survey to complete. Ballots will be sent out by May 1<sup>st</sup> to all staff. Make sure you get the word out to vote.

- **Staff Senate Retreat Update**

At the retreat, we met and discussed initiatives and ideas. A report summarizing those initiatives/ ideas will be completed soon. The report will categorize the initiatives/ideas into ones that we can work with as the senate and those we can help advocate for, and the ones that we can suggest to the administration. The report will be on one-drive so everyone can make edits to it. The reports will be posted on the Staff Senate website as well and will be open to feedback. In the future, we will create an ad hoc committee to discuss initiatives that we can implement.

### **III. New Business**

- **Chair's Report**

- The pavers between University Hall and Rike and by the Bell Tower will be replaced this summer. This is part of the overall plan to take care of the pavers that have maintenance issues and impact accessibility.

- New programs are in the works. Those programs are Aviation, Data Science and Modern Language programs.
  - Multi-term registration has been going well. 50% of students that are registered Fall 2023 are also registered for Spring 2024. This program aids in the retention of students by helping them to plan ahead.
  - Performance evaluations next year will be moving to an electronic format and will be making some other changes as well. If anyone has any feedback on that, please contact HR.
  - Wright Leader Academy application process is open and will end on April 21<sup>st</sup>. They sent this to leadership, supervisors, and everyone looking for individuals who would be good candidates and encourage them to apply.
  - Parking will no longer have an open enrollment period and will continue to an evergreen charge that will automatically renew annually. You can make a change to the type of permit once a year unless something changes with the overall policy then that would not count as your one change. This will never expire, and the only thing you will have to do, if you do not want to make changes, you can update your vehicle registration any time. If you have any questions, please contact Ben Looten or write to [parking@wright.edu](mailto:parking@wright.edu). If you do not have a permit or want one, you no longer need to opt out. This will be a more flexible process.
  - Work from home policy is currently being looked to be revised. They are wanting to make to move this out of an emergency policy into a more mature policy since we are post COVID.
  - There is no known discussion of changes to vending coming. Senate liaison will check with the appropriate parties to verify this. If there are any changes, we have expressed our concerns that the availability of dining services be balanced. Also, we brought attention to the issue of not having accessibility to food if someone has a sugar spike or any other medical issues when dining services is closed and that this is a concern.
  - Inquired about having the option to choose monthly or bi-weekly pay periods. HR has been looking into the possibility of having that option, but currently, they are not going to provide that option. It is something that they will continue to explore the possibility in the future of having this option.
  - Senate executive committee has had discussions about meeting with Dr. Amy Thompson, Provost, quarterly or so, in addition of meeting with our administrative liaison. We are looking forward to the opportunity to share our initiatives/ideas and be heard.
- **Officer's Reports**
  - **Standing Committee Reports**
    - We wanted to thank everyone who participated in the Lunch and Letters event. It was a great event to social and do some good things for the

university and help with the 3 R's by writing the welcome cards to the incoming new class. These personalized notes tells students that we are happy to see them in the fall and welcome to university. It makes an impact for them. If you were not able to make it, please contact admission to get a packet and complete some cards.

- Poker walk will be on June 7th from 11:30-12:30. Weather permitting, we will be outside. Notices and flyers will be coming out soon. It is a great opportunity to enjoy some fellowship with your colleagues and get some exercise in.

- **University Committee Rep Reports**

- Building and Grounds – They had a meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup>. If you see something that is broken or needs repairs, please contact Javon in facilities or Ben Looten. Facilities has quite a list of repairs. There is about \$123 million dollars in deferred maintenance that needs to be done. They are doing their best to address it as the best they can.
- Mental Health Task Force – They are encouraging folks to get the mental health first aid training. The next training is May 19<sup>th</sup>. It is basically an all day training, approximately 6 ½ hours. It is virtual and you will be required to do 2 hours of pre-work prior to the live session. This will be an opportunity to get training on how to be there for ourselves and for those around us as well.

#### IV. Open Commentary

- Parking question on Rowdy spots availability. Currently, there are more Rowdy spots open than what was sold. DPS will be continuously evaluating the numbers of those spaces in different lots. If you have any concerns, please contact parking.
- Will license plates not being on the front anymore, should people not pull through in the spaces to make it easier for the readers? This is not a policy to do that. Officers are instructed to get out of their vehicles and look at the cars that do not have license plates in the front to avoid ticketing someone who has a permit.
- We will have finished the elections and will announce the new Senators in May. In June, we will elect officers. In May, start thinking of officers' positions as we will need to fill a chair-elect, secretary-elect, and treasurer-elect.

#### V. Schedule Reminders

- Board of Trustees Committee Day, April 27, 1:30 pm, Lake Campus
- Board of Trustees Public Session, April 28, 9:00 am, Endeavor Room

#### VI. Adjourn