

Staff Senate

January 11, 2022
Meeting Minutes

Note: The remarks of the senators and others are summarized and not verbatim. The recording of this meeting is available in the Staff Senate Secretary's office.

PRESENT: Sandy Baldrige-Adrian; Matthew Barnes; Penny Bell; Jean Bennett; April Betsch; Roger Brown; Chris Carter; Brittany Donatelli; Vivian Ford; Grace Gavin; Daniel Hucks; Brian Hutchinson; Geoffrey Insch; David Klauder; Michelle Lewis; Ebony McCray; Alexis McGarvey; Kelly Moore; Bradley Queen; Walter Showers; Wendy Singleton; Abby Sink; David Speiser; Jennifer Stewart; Samantha Sullivan; Michele Varga; Sharlene Zwing

SUBSTITUTIONS: Kara Schultz for Katherine Byron

ABSENT:

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Brian Bunton, Dr. Lee Brown, Jim Solazzo, David Frost, Ren Mungo, David Russell

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Approval of the December minutes. Motion made by David Speiser and 2nd by Jean Bennett. Motion passed.

Special Order of the Day:

- None

SENATE PRESIDENT REMARKS:

- Executive Council:
 - Met on January 10th.
 - Now is a good time to review your continuity of operations.
 - Signature authority has changed. Authority has been given to your President Council VP for certain items. Determination will be made through Legal Counsel.
 - The Fall 2022 Academic Schedule is awaiting approval. An announcement will be made if changes are made.
 - Mask mandate is in place and will be reviewed by the Board of Trustees in 30 days.
 - Chauncey masks are available at the Chant 411 information desk or Byran Information Commons. CINO card required for pick up. KN95 masks will not be distributed by the University.
 - LJSU testing site is open and available. Testing for symptomatic and asymptomatic faculty, staff and students. No testing for family members. Testing Monday through

Friday 10am –2pm for asymptomatic and 2pm-4pm is designated for mild symptomatic testing. Saturday and Sunday testing times are 12pm –2pm for asymptomatic and 2pm-4pm for symptomatic testing.

- Spring 2022 enrollment up 22.6%, retention is at 89.2% for freshman, fall 2022 applications up 13%.
- The Center for Professional Development, Teaching and Learning is now under the direction of Dean Lee Brown and now under the College of Graduate and Continuing Studies.
- Recent topic submissions:
 - Concerns for safety at Burroughs and Chapin Building. Suggestion to insert a sidewalk. Concern forwarded to David Frost.
 - Suggestion to provide Microsoft Office training to faculty and staff. Forwarded to Provost Ennis and will be sent to Dean Brown as well.
 - Complaint regarding POD Express in AOC2 being closed over break. Shared additional information with the senator to take back to individual.
- Reminders
 - Please read your emails and share information with your constituents.
 - Please provide your name when submitting a topic submission for follow –up. You can ask to remain anonymous.

Presentation

- None

PRESIDENT AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

President Benson:

- Encourages everyone to take advantage of COVID testing in Lib Jackson.
- Echoed Signature Authority process.
- Teaching a History course this semester.
- South Carolina is now going into the Legislative Session.

Provost Ennis:

- Report same as from the general Faculty Meeting.
- Introduction of Dean Lee Brown.
- Fall to Spring retention is positive.

Travis Overton:

- No report

Tom Koczara:

- No report. Not in attendance.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

In an effort to streamline Staff Senate meetings, but also continue to collect valuable employee feedback data, the Senate will begin referring Topic Suggestions that relate to specific areas of operation to the appropriate person in those areas. The Senate will continue to collect these submissions and will review them in total each semester to determine if there are organizational patterns that should be addressed by the Senate as a whole.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Policy and Welfare Committee

- Staff survey draft was sent to IRA. Committee hoping for senate approval at the next Staff Senate meeting.

Membership Committee

- No report

Communication Committee

- No report

OLD BUSINESS:

- none

NEW BUSINESS:

- SC House Bill 4522 Canceling Faculty Tenure Act.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1/22 Melissa Harris-Perry will be this year's MLK speaker. The event is ticketed and will be taking place in Wheelwright.
- The next Staff Senate Meeting is February 8th at 9am in LJSU A201. The meeting will also be streamed live.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:51 am.