

Staff Senate

March 8, 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; April Betsch; Jean Bennett; Chris Carter; Brittany Donatelli; Vivian Ford; Grace Gavin; Daniel Hucks; Brian Hutchinson; Geoffrey Insch; David Klauder; Ebony McCray; Alexis McGarvey; Kelly Moore; Walter Showers; Abby Sink; David Speiser; Jennifer Stewart; Samantha Sullivan; Michele Varga; Sharlene Zwing

SUBSTITUTIONS: Tonya Warren for Penny Bell; Lanie Karstrom for Roger Brown; Rein Mungo for Wendy Singleton

ABSENT: Michelle Lewis; Bradley Queen

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Brian Bunton, John Dooley, Jim Solazzo, David Russell

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Approval of the February minutes. Motion made by David Klauder and 2nd by Alexis McGarvey. Motion passed.

Special Order of the Day:

- Welcome to Staff Ombuds John Dooley. John Dooley gave a presentation on the Ombuds position.
 - Location: Kimbel Library 210
 - Office Hours: 8:00am to 4:30pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Hours can be flexed. Meetings can take place virtually, in-person, or over the phone.
 - Email: jdooley@coastal.edu or staffombuds@coastal.edu
 - Phone: 843-349-2209
 - Website: coastal.edu/ombuds

SENATE PRESIDENT REMARKS:

- Executive Council:
 - No Executive Council meeting as of this Staff Senate meeting. Will meet on next week.
- Recent topic submissions:
 - Received a complaint about the February Staff Senate meeting not being livestreamed.
 - The executive group is having conversations about Bring Your Child to Work Day.

- Inquiry about faculty being asked for nominations for Strategic Planning Committee and not staff. Staff Senate will have presentations and open forums.
- Concern regarding signage at the post Office. Inquiry sent to the Director of the Post Office.
- Inquiry about staff being able to get free tickets to sporting events like students. Reminder that students also pay for tickets through a fee each semester.
- Concern about the timing of events on campus.
- Inquiry regarding pay increase due to inflation. David Frost and Tom Koczara was contacted. South Carolina is in the budget process.
- Received a question about the expenditure policy. Lila Taylor gave a response.
- Concern about trash on East Campus. Campus Environmental Services are working to correct the issue.
- Inquiry about flex scheduling due to the rise in gas prices was sent to Tom Koczara.
- 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

- CHANT411 by April Betsch

PRESIDENT AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

President Benson:

- Welcome to John Dooley, Staff Ombuds.
- Will be presenting to the Finance Committee for South Carolina on this Thursday in Columbia.
- The Board of Trustees approved an Honorary Degree for Vanessa Wyche on May 7th.
- Attended Alumni events in New York and North Carolina.

Provost Ennis:

- There will be two Commencement ceremonies this year:
 - University Commencement is open to everyone on May 7th at 9am.
 - Each Academic College will have their own ceremony that will be ticketed.
- Working to have classes begin on Wednesdays moving forward.
 - Fall 2022 classes will begin on August 24, 2022.
- Multiple Dean Announcements will be coming soon.

Travis Overton:

- Welcome to John Dooley
 - Reiterated the search process for the Staff Ombuds position.

- Assured community that a full external search was done.
- Serving as the on-campus Coordinator for Strategic Planning
 - Timeline for Strategic Planning to be shared. There will be an opportunity for feedback.
 - The University is partnering with the McNair Group, an external consultant group.

Tom Koczara:

- Well wishes to John Dooley in his new role as Staff Ombuds.
- HR hoping to roll out a Supervisory Series. Currently piloting the program.
- Wellness screening is happening today. It is free. You can register for future dates.
- The summer hours announcement has gone out.
- HR researching telework hours.
- Total Compensation Statements have launched.
- HR help desk ticketing system is being launched later in March.
- Telephone tree for HR coming soon.
- HR is continuing to revamp the HR website.

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

- No report

Membership Committee

- Met in February and constructed a form for new senators.
- Working to generate a monthly report of all staff on campus.

Communication Committee

- Committee with be undertaking Bring Your Child to Work Day.

OLD BUSINESS:

- SC House Bill 4522 Canceling Faculty Tenure Act

NEW BUSINESS:

- Faculty Resolution for CRT Bill
 - Motion to support the bill made by Alexis McGarvey and seconded by Sam Sullivan.
Motion carried.

- Any Senator interested in Staff Recognition Ad Hoc Committee should contact Sandy Baldrige-Adrian.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Big announcement coming soon from Student Life.
- Spring sports are in full swing. Go support our student athletes.
- Check the Cultural Calendar for upcoming events.
- Next meeting April 12th at 9am in the Alford Ballroom

Motion to adjourn by Sam Sullivan and seconded by Geoffrey Insch. With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:53am.